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A New and Complete  
**HISTORY OF ESSEX,**  
FROM A LATE SURVEY;

Compared with the most celebrated Historians;

CONTAINING,

A natural and pleasing Description

OF THE SEVERAL

**DIVISIONS of the COUNTY,**

WITH THEIR

Products, and Curiosities of every Kind

BOTH ANCIENT AND MODERN.

AND

A Review of the most remarkable Events and Revolutions therein, from the earliest Æra down to 1770.

ILLUSTRATED WITH COPPER-PLATES.

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BY A GENTLEMAN.

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VOL. III.

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CHELMSFORD: ,

Printed and Sold by LIONEL HASSALL. MDCCLXX.

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BY A. C. B.

V. C.

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T H E

# HISTORY OF ESSEX, &c.

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Uttlesford Hundred continued.

## E L S E N H A M.

**T**HIS parish is the adjoining one to that which we treated of last, in the second volume, being bounded by it on the north side, by Braxted in Dunmow Hundred on the east, by Stansted on the south, and Ugley on the west side: it is computed to be about two miles long, and near the same in breadth: from Stortford it is situate about five miles, from Walden eight, and from Dunmow seven. It is divided from Stansted Montfichet by a small stream that turns an over-shot corn-mill. At the time of the survey by

#### 4 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

the conqueror, the greatest part of this parish belonged to John, nephew or grandson of John Waleram; the other part belonged to Robert Gernon.

The manor of ELSENHAM with *Nether-hall* or *New-hall* hath a mansion adjoining the churchyard. It is called Nether-hall and New-hall to distinguish it from the situation of the old manor-house, which is now unknown. Soon after the conquest this lordship belonged to a noble family surnamed De Abimcis, barons of Folkstone in Kent: from them it passed to the families of Crevequer, Rochford, Walden, Barle, Barlee, Adams, Dawkins, and Heath; in the last of which families it is still remaining, being the property of William Heath of Stansted-hall, esq.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

John Wells, of this parish, fan-wright, gave two cottages of the yearly rent of three pounds ten shillings, (or thereabouts) to be laid out in clothing for poor men and women of this parish, at the discretion of the minister and certain trustees.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church, in the year 1070 was given by John, nephew of Waleram, to the abbey of St. Stephen, at Caen in Normandy: however, in the reign of king Richard I. we find the church given by Beatrix lady Say, sister of Geoffrey de Mandeville earl of Essex, to the monastery of that earl's foundation at Walden,  
for

for the entertainment of guests and strangers : by what means she came by it does not appear, but it may have been in exchange for other possessions, or she might have purchased it. A vicarage was erected and endowed some time after, in the gift of the abbey of Walden, and continued in them till their dissolution : upon which this rectory (which is a manor) and the advowson of the vicarage were by king Henry VIII. given to Thomas lord Audeley, and he at his death bequeathed them to his wife, who was remarried afterwards to Sir George Norton ; and from his daughter and heir Margaret they passed to Thomas duke of Norfolk, and to their son the lord Thomas Howard, who sold them to John Wever. About the time of the restoration they were purchased by William Canning, esq. whose son George and grandson John succeeded him herein : Mary, sole daughter and heir to the latter, carried them in marriage to Joseph Eves, and afterwards to John Howlet, of this parish, gent. They belongs now to John Canning, B. A.

The church is pleasantly situated on the summit of a hill a small distance from the village : the church and chancel are of one pace only ; the former is leaded on one side, and tiled on the other side. The chancel is tiled. In a stone tower embattled are four bells ; and over the tower is a small narrow spire.

In the chancel, against the north wall, is a very ancient tomb, which had over it several brass plates but they were torn off in the distracted times of Cromwell :

## 6 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

well : Part of a brass legend is still remaining, upon which is engraved, in the old English characters :

—— xxii day of Marche, an. Dom. Mccccxxi and of ELIZABETHE hys wyffe whiche decessid the                      day off Anno Domini Mccccxx.

A grave-stone on the ground in the chancel hath this inscription :

Here lieth the body of THOMAS, the son of William Adams, esq. grandson to Sir Thomas Adams of Elfenham, bart. He died Jan. 17, 1660.

In a brass plate affixed on the south side the arch which divides the church and chancel is this inscription :

Here lieth the body of ALICE TUER, who died the wyfe of Doc Tuer, vicar of this church, with whom she lived 22 yeres within four monets and four days without any of the least household breaches either in deede or worde between them, such was her goodnesse. The widowe (first of Robert Claydon, of Ashdon in Essex) by whome she had three children, Anne, (who died before her mother, leaving behind her a young suckling daughter, called Mary, yet surviving) as also Thomas and John Claydon, who waited bothe at her funerall. Her humble soule God delivered from the downe-pressing birthen of this flesh Oct. 7, 1619, in the year of her age as herself and friends accounted 72.

In another brass plate on the north side the said arch is written :

Here lieth ANNE, the wyfe of Thomas Fielde; only daughter of Alice, (at the time of the decease and burial of the said Anne) the wife of John Tuor, doctor of lawe, then vicar of Elsnam. By her said fadd mother Alice (the daughter of maister Richard Fitz Hughes, of Eaton in Bedfordshire, esq.) descended of the ancient  
and



## ELSENHAM.

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and sometimes noble family whose virtuous soule God took to himself the 9 of Sept. 1615 and of her age the 26, leaving behind her one only image of herself, a young suckling daughter.

### ELSENHAM VICARAGE.

PATRON AND INCUMBENT.

John Canning, B. A.

1757.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£ 11 10 0

£ 1 3 0

## T A K E L Y

**I**S south of Elsenham, from which parish it is separated by that of Stansted Montfitchet: it lies partly in the road from Dunmow to Stortford, (which road has within these few years been made turnpike) from the former of which places it is distant about four miles, from the latter five, and from Thackstead eight miles; in length it is computed to measure about three, and in width two miles; the lands in general are heavy, watered by a stream which runs to Hatfield, and by a small rivulet, which serves in some places as a boundary to this parish and that of Candfield. The vill is small, and consists of but a few houses; the inhabitants are in general supported by husbandry and spinning. At the time of the general survey, the lands here were owned by Robert Gernon, Eudo Dapifer,

Dapifer, and the priory of St. Vallery in Picardy; they are now chiefly divided into the manors of Waltham-hall, Colchester-hall, St. Valery's or Warish-hall, and the manor of Bassingburns.

The manor of WALTHAM-HALL hath a mansion about two miles and a half east of the church; the old house was taken down, and the present one built out of its ruins. This manor is reckoned the principal one in the parish, and in some old writings is distinguished accordingly, being called the manor of *Takely*, or Waltham-hall, which latter name was given to it from its having belonged to the abbey of Waltham Holy Cross. When and by whom it was given to that house is not particularly recorded; but it appears by pleas at Chelmsford in the year 1285, that it was a gift of king Henry II. King Henry III. granted them a market and a fair; and king Edward III. free-warren here. The abbey continued possessed of this manor till their dissolution, when king Henry VIII. granted it to Richard Heigham. In 1554 we find it in Thomas Miller; at whose decease it became the joint property of his son Thomas, and Francis Salperwig, which two, in the year 1574, joined in selling this estate to Robert Petre, esq. who dying in 1593 was succeeded in it by his eldest brother's son John, afterwards created lord Petre; and after continuing for several years in that noble family, we find it in Sir Isaac Shaard, knt. and afterwards in his son Abraham. It is now the property of — Shaard, esq. Colchester-

COLCHESTER-HALL stands near two miles north north-east from the church; and was so named because it belonged to the abbey of St. John at Colchester. This manor, at the time of the general survey, belonged to Eudo Dapifer, founder of that abbey. He endowed his foundation with two parts of the tythes of Takely, but we do not find that he gave to it any lands here; however they had given to them by several persons sufficient to make up what was called Colchester-hall, part of which estate was holden of the Plaiz family of Stansted. The abbey remained possessed of this manor till their dissolution, at which time it was let at the yearly rent of 7l. 7s. 8d. King Henry VIII. granted it to Robert Forster in the year 1538, and the year afterwards Mr. Forster alienated it to Robert Heigham, esq. His brother William was his heir, and his widow Mary, who had for her first husband John Colt, esq. was succeeded herein by her son Thomas Colt, who in 1553 conveyed it to Thomas Thorpe, and he in 1557 conveyed it to Thomas Wyberd; and from his family it has passed through those of Ruffel, Wiseman, Crackbone, and Plumme; and it is now in — Ruffel, of North Ox-kingdon, esq.

The manor of ST. VALERYS, vulgarly called *Warish-hall*, belonged to the abbey of St. Valery in Picardy, to which abbey it was given by the Conqueror. A small priory was founded here for a cell to St. Valery in the reign of king Henry I. and that

monarch added to their possessions.\* The revenues of those priories alien were seized several times, (as we have before observed of some others) by our kings, and it is conjectured that this was obtained of king Edward III. by William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, and settled upon his munificent foundation of New College, Oxford, in whose possession it remains to this day. The priory has been demolished for these several years, but there is an ancient house moated round about a mile east from the church, called Warish-hall, where a court is kept for the college.

The manor of BASSINGBURNE hath a good modern-built mansion, standing part in this and part in the parish of Stansted Montfichet: it is a large, regular, handsome building, the front of which is remarkably rich, and of elegant workmanship: convenient offices are placed on it's side, and being situated on the summit of a large hill, it commands a pleasing view of the country around. It took it's name from the ancient family of Bassingburne, some of whom were settled here in the reign of king Henry III. From it's possessors at the time of the conquest we trace it through the families of Playz, Howard, Towse, and Kendal, to the present worthy owner and builder of the mansion, Francis Bernard, esq. son of

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\* They had besides the manor of Birchacre, Priors in Lindfell, Bacons in Denzey; Walia, Urthistun, Medelbury, Mangeden, Botilton, Machekes, Chavenfield, &c. and the rectories and advowsons of the vicarages of Hampton, Heston, Isleworth, and Twickenham in Middlesex. The Prior of this cell was procurator-general of St. Valery's abbey, and collector of the rents of all the lands they had in England.

Francis Bernard, esq. one of the judges of the court of common-pleas in Ireland.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The advowson of this church was given by William de Hanville, to God, and the abbot and monastery of St. John Baptist, of Colchester: but in the year 1237 the abbot and convent gave up the whole patronage of this church to the cathedral of St. Paul, and to Roger Niger, bishop of London, and his successors for ever; and it hath ever since remained in the collation of the bishops of London. Part of the great tythes was appropriated to the fabric of the church of St. Paul; the two parts which the said abbot and convent used to receive being appropriated to them.

The parsonage is a manor, and is leased out by the bishop of London; the present lessee is Francis Bernard, esq. owner of Bassingburne-hall.

When good bishop Compton granted a new lease of it to William Kendall, esq. July 24, 1680, he charged it with the sum of forty pounds a year, payable quarterly to the vicar, as an augmentation to the vicarage: It is said this augmentation was confirmed by act of parliament.

On a brass plate affixed in this church by Mr. English, late vicar, is a memorial; that ‘ Hannah Knollys gave to God June 27, 1689, in augmentation of the vicarage, 7*l.* per annum, for the due payment of which a house and freehold lands are tied: she likewise settled a house and orchard on the parish clerk for ever.’



‘ The tythe of about thirty acres of hay, ten acres of wheat, and ten of oats, are payable to the vicarage out of the tythes of Warish-hall ; and the farm failing, are to be taken out of the lordship’.

Geffrey de Hanville, son of William, founded a chapel at his house in this parish for his own convenience, on account of the badness of the roads and it's distance from the church, with covenants that it should be no prejudice to the mother-church. No traces of it remain.

In 1659, James Small was presented to this vicarage by the trustees for the maintenance of ministers, who were, William Steel, chancellor of Ireland, Sir John Thoroughgood, knt. George Cooper, Richard Yong, John Pocock, Ralph Hall, Richard Sydenham, John Humfrey, and Edward Cresset, esqrs.

The church and chancel are of stone, tiled : the former hath a south ayfle, the latter is of one pace only. At the west end is a square stone tower, with a small spire : in the tower are only four bells. At the upper end of the south ayfle of the church is a small chapel, and at the bottom of the same ayfle a strong room, in which the images of saints, &c. were formerly deposited.

Within the chapel are these inscriptions :

Here lieth buried the body of William Towse, esq. sonn and hyre of William Towse, fergiant at the law, who departed this life the 29th of May 1692.

Within this chapel belonging to Bassingborne-hall is interred the body of John Kendall, esq. who purchased the sayd manor of the

In

heirefs of ſerjeant Towſe in the year 1663, and departed this life the 29th of November, being in the 78th year of his age.

In the chancel, upon a ſtone on the ground is this epitaph :

Stay whoſoere thou art,  
view here this marble which does  
entombe the body of Hannah, daughter of  
WILLIAM COLLIN, of  
Lincoln's-Inn, eſq.  
relict of Francis Knollys, of  
Neather Winchington, in the  
County of Bucks, eſq.  
ſhe lived long and happily  
and died without iſſue  
on the 23d of June, 1689  
her executors fixed this ſtone as a laſting monument  
of her memory  
and their gratitude.

In the chancel are likewise epitaphs for

' William Collyn, gent. who died in June 1681, in the 22d  
' year of his age.'

Mrs. Mary Engliſh, late wife of John Engliſh, vicar of this pariſh,  
who died Nov. 17, 1695. Alſo Mr. John Engliſh, aforeſaid,  
who died on April 4, 1716, aged 83.

### TAKELY VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

John Pinſent, M. A.

Biſhop of London.

1738:

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£ 11 0 0

£ 1 2 0

Birchangre.

## BIRCHANGRE.

**T**HIS little parish adjoins to the west side of Takely, and extends a little way along the high road from London to Cambridge, Newmarket, &c. It is distant from Stortford about two miles and a half: from Saffron Walden ten; and from London thirty-two: the number of houses within it are few, whose inhabitants are chiefly supported by husbandry. At the time of the survey this place belonged to the abbey of St. Valery; but at the time of the seizure the estates of the priories-alien by king Edward III. during his wars with France, this was one of those which was not ever restored; and it continuing in the crown, that king granted it to William of Wickham, founder of New College, Oxford, who made it part of the endowment of that foundation: in which this manor still continues, with the advowson of the rectory.

Here is in this parish another reputed manor. For William Towse, esq. who died the 22d of October 1634, is recorded to have held a manor called Princes Wood, with view of frank pledge, &c. in Birchangre; but the truth is; there is a wood lately in possession of Mr. Ely, of Bishops Stortford, and since of Mr. Nicholls, that has the reputation of a manor; upon which a court was held under an oak at midnight.

Stortford

Stortford claims a right to this manor, which seems to have been erected before the bishop of London had his lands restored, when they were taken away by king John, on account of the bishop's executing the pope's interdict.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The advowson of this rectory was originally in the abbey of St. Valery; and has been in New College, Oxford, ever since the year 1398.\*

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is most delightfully situated on the summit of a hill, not far from the London great road: it is small, and, together with the chancel, hath lately, (through the great assiduity and application of the present incumbent) been thoroughly repaired, and rendered very neat. The church and chancel are of one pace only, tiled. The steeple is round, after the Danish fashion; within it are three bells, and upon it a small low spire shingled.

The parsonage, which is a neat house near the church, is remarkably pleasant in it's situation.

On the ground within the communion rails of the church, is an epitaph for

William Reade, of this parish, gent. and Ann his wife: he died April 3, 1639; she died Nov. 14, 1659.

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\* William Parsons, B. L. L. who was instituted June 30, 1641, read usually the Common Prayer in this church during the troubles in the last century, notwithstanding the manifest danger he incurrd. He was afterwards prebendary of Chichester, rector of Lamborn, and vicar of Great Dunmow.

16 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED

In the chancel are epitaphs for

Mr. MICHAEL THOMPSON, of London, merchant, and Sarah his wife. He died October 20, 1705, aged 57. She July 5, 1726, aged 62.

Mrs. ELIZABETH THOMPSON, wife of Mr. Michael Thompson, son to the abovementioned. She died June 15, 1745, aged 44.

BIRCHANGRE RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Isaac-Moody Bingham, B. A.

New Col. Oxford.

1759.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 9 13 4

£. 0 19 4

STANSTED MONTFICHET.

THIS parish may be reckoned one among the largest in this county, being computed to measure in circumference near, if not quite forty miles. It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Ugley and Elsenham; on the east by Great and Little Easton; on the south by Birchangre and Takely, and on the west by Bishop-Stortford in Hertfordshire, and by Farnham in Essex: from London it is distant thirty-three miles, from Saffron Walden nine, from Bishop-Stortford three, and from Dunmow seven: it's situation is variable; a part of the parish being exceeding lofty, and a part very low: the town is large and divided into two parts: through the one lies



lies the road to Elsenham and Takely; through the other the great Newmarket road, which runs nearly two miles in this parish. Here are two or three inns for the accommodation of passengers, but a traveller would expect in them much better accommodation than he will find, when he considers the vast traffic of this much-frequented road. Here are likewise a few neat shops, but not of any considerable trade, their chief business being with each other, and supplying the few neighbouring farm-houses, &c. That part of the town situated on the London road, is on a hill, and has a neat appearance: a fair is held here on the 12th of May: the part on the road to Elsenham lies low, and is in a better condition than could be expected from it's situation: the roads in both parts, so far as they extend in this parish, are very good. Stansted-street is by the river Stort: Stansted-chapel, a little way west of the same, in the road from Walden to Stortford, and was built undoubtedly for the conveniency of Stansted-street, Bandfield-bury, &c. The warren, in the middle of Hatfield forest, is reputed in this parish, having belonged to Thremhalls, and been exchanged by the lord Morley, or Sir Edward Turner, with Mr. Ray for lands near his house. The name of Stansted is plainly derived from the two Saxon words Stan, *a stone*, and *stæa*, *place*. Norden thinks it is so called from it's being a stony, or gravelly place. The addition of *Montfichet* undoubtedly was to distinguish it from another Stansted not very far distant in Hertfordshire;

and it was taken from an artificial, fixed, or firm, mount of earth, erected by William Gernon, on which his castle was built; and of which castle there are some remains to be seen, about a quarter of a mile from the the church. At the time of the general survey this place was the property of Robert Gernon; whose posterity rendered it considerable by making it their chief seat and castle, and head of their barony.\* They were possessed of this whole parish, in which the two following manors are mentioned in their times; namely, the manor of Stansted Montfichet and of Bendfield bury.

STANSTED HALL, which is the mansion-house of the first-named manor, is a fine large old building, situate not far from the church, upon the summit of a lofty hill, from which it commands a fine prospect of Stansted, Elsenham, Henham, and the country around; it is decorated with good gardens, plantations, nurseries, &c. &c. and from the many improvements made in it by the late and present worthy owners, is rendered a pleasant and convenient country residence.

—This manor passed from Robert already mentioned, to William his son and heir, who took the surname of Montfichet, and was succeeded by his son Gilbert Montfichet; who had for his successor his son Richard; and he was succeeded by his son of the

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\* Robert Gernon, or Greno (as he is often called in domesday-book,) was a Norman, descended from the house of Bologne; and coming over with William the Conqueror, was rewarded with this lordship, and several others in this county, the chief of which were Springfield, Margareting, Eastthorp, Great Birch, Wivenhoe, Layton, East and West Ham, Chinkford, Chigwell, &c. &c.



J. Chipman del et sculp

Stansted Hall the Seat of W<sup>m</sup> Heath Esq.



same name: the latter of whom dying in the year 1258 without issue, the noble inheritance of this family became divided among his three sisters; namely, Margery, married to Hugh de Bolebeck, of Northumberland; Aveline, to William de Fortz, earl of Albemarle; and Philippa to Hugh de Plaiz; upon which division Bolebec had Stansted-hall, and De Plaiz Bendfield-bury: at the death of Hugh the Montfichet estate here and elsewhere became divided among his four daughters and coheirs, and they disposed of their estates in the following manner: Margery, his second daughter, married first to Nicholas Corbett, and afterwards to Ralph, son of William, lord of Grimsthorp, gave her part to Margery, daughter of Nicholas Corbett, and she granted it to her half brother Ralph, son of William de Grimsthorp. Alice, his third daughter, married to Roger de Huntercomb of Oxfordshire, enfeoffed in her purparty Giles de Barrington, who enfeoffed in the same Robert Burnel. Maud, the fourth daughter, and wife of Hugh de la Vall, enfeoffed in her part also Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, and keeper of the great Seal. — Roger de Lancaster, baron of Kendal in Westmoreland, (a very considerable man of his time) married Philippa the eldest daughter, and had for his successor in this estate his son John de Lancaster; Hugh de Vall enjoyed his wife's portion of this estate till his death, when it fell to John, last mentioned, who sold the reversion of this estate, after his own and his wife's death, to Thomas de Vere, one of the sons of



Robert, the third earl of Oxford, in which family the other parts of this manor that had been dismembered from it, also centered, and were enjoyed by them for several generations. We have seen that Alice and Maud, the two youngest daughters of Hugh de Bolebec, parted with their shares of the Montfichet estates here to Robert Burnel, which from him came to be called the *manor of Burnel*.

The mansion-house of Burnell is near the bridge, on the left hand side of the way going from Stansted-bury to Stansted town; here the court is kept at an old house, and is supposed to have been so ever since the demolition of the castle.

The manor-house of Bury-Lodge stands by the side of the road leading from Stansted-hall to Takeley common.

BENDFIELD-BURY, which is the most considerable manor in this parish, hath a mansion about two miles north-west from the church, near the river Stort. It is a hamlet to the parish of Stansted; notwithstanding which, the inhabitants do their service at the leet of the half hundred of Clavering, and chuse a distinct constable of their own. This, as well as the manors before mentioned, belonged to Robert Gernon at the time of the general survey, and afterwards to his descendants surnamed de Montfichet; from whose posterity it was carried by marriage to the family of de Plaiz; a descendant of which family marrying Sir John Howard, carried this estate with her, and their grand-daughter succeeded them herein;

she

she married John de Vere, son and heir of Richard the eleventh earl of Oxford; who, together with his father, were beheaded for their adherence to the house of Lancaster. Their estates being forfeited to the crown, Bendfield-bury was given by the trustees of Richard duke of Gloucester, brother to king Edward IV. in 1498, for erecting a chantry in the chapel of St. George at Windsor. But this did not take place; for upon the coming of king Henry VII. to the throne, the Vere family was restored to their honors and estates; among which this manor continued in that noble family till Edward the seventeenth earl alienated it to John Southall, who conveyed them in February 1584, to Edward Halbard, esq. from whose family, in the year 1615, it was conveyed to Sir Thomas Middleton,\* knt. Timothy, his second son, settled here, and was succeeded by his son Thomas, who built the new part of Stansted hall: his successor was his son Thomas, who was burgess for Harwich in this county in 1679 and 1681, also in 1688, 1690, 1695, and 1698; at his death he had for his successor Thomas Middleton, esq. his son and heir, one of the knights for this shire in the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th parliaments of queen Anne. At his death he left no male issue, but five daughters: by his last will he vested his estate in trustees, for raising portions for his children, and payment of debts: an act of parliament passed afterwards, empowering the trustees to sell it; and it was purchased by Thomas Heath, of Mile-end in Middle-

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\* See his epitaph at the end of this parish.

sex, esq. who was one of the burgesſes for Harwich in the firſt parliament of king George I. At his death he was ſucceeded by his eldeſt ſon Bayley Heath, eſq. ſheriff for this county in the year 1747 ; he died July 9, 1760, and was ſucceeded by his ſon William Heath, eſq. the preſent owner, who reſides at Stanſted-hall, and has generously contributed a copper-plate of it for the embellishment of this work.

The PRIORY OF THREMHALL, dedicated to St. James, ſtood within the bounds of this pariſh, about two miles ſouth ſouth-eaſt from the church, by the ſide of Hatfield foreſt. The only remains of it are a ſtone wall on the north ſide of Dr. Robinson's garden. The founder of this priory was Richard de Montfichet, above-mentioned, for black canons of the Benedictine order. It was chiefly endowed by that family and the de Veres, earls of Oxford ; and the patronage of it came from that of Montfichet to the family laſt named. About the year 1259 Robert de Vere, the fifth earl of Oxford, gave to the prior and convent ninety-five acres of arable, and five of meadow land in Takely ; and forty-three acres of arable and two of meadow in Birchangre. Hugh de Vere added to this gift two meſſuages, fix acres of meadow, fourteen of paſture, and ſixteen ſhillings rent in thoſe two pariſhes and in Stanſted. They had alſo the great rythes of the pariſh of Stanſted ; an eſtate in Tendring, ſuppoſed to be what was called the manor of Gernons, (though that name is now forgotten there) the manor of Geddy-hall, otherwiſe Engaines, in Little Clacton ; lands in Great Clacton ; Roſe-bridge, Perſtedeys, and Watmede,

Watmade, &c. Beches in Pelham, Farneuse in Hertfordshire, the gift of one of the family of Ferneuse. At the suppression it was valued according to Dugdale at 60l. 18s. 7d. according to Speed at 70l. 19s. 3d: yearly. King Henry VIII. granted the site and manor of it, and the manor of Derbitots to John Carey, and Joice Walsingham, widow, and their heirs: she afterwards became his wife. Sir John Cary, at the time of his decease in September, 1552, was found to hold the premises, with a portion of 26s. 8d. out of the rectory of Birchangre, and forty messuages, one thousand acres of arable, three hundred of meadow, eighty of pasture, one hundred of wood, and twenty marks rent in Thremhall, Manuden, Stansted, Birchangre, Ugley, Tendring, Great and Little Clacton, Engaynshall, Rose-bridge, Perstedes, and Watmade; and the advowsons of the vicarages of Tremhall and Stansted, late belonging to this priory. Wymond Carey, their son, alienated them in March 1566 to William Glascock and John Pavyoth. Glascock dying in 1578, was succeeded herein by his son Richard, and he by his son George. The latter alienated the manor of Thremhall, the site of the priory, twelve messuages, eleven tofts, twelve gardens, six orchards, one hundred and twenty acres of arable, twenty of meadow, twenty of pasture, twenty of wood, and 30l. rent to Nicholas Ray, gent. whose two sons John and George, in the year 1590, purchased of Wymond Carey the manor of Derbitots, the rectory of Thremhall and Stansted, two messuages, one dovehouse,



house, two barns, two gardens, one orchard, sixty acres of arable, ten of meadow, twenty of pasture, and ten of wood, &c. Their father died in 1602, as did George in 1608, without issue; so that the whole centered in John Ray, and from him it descended to the late Rev. Thomas Ray, who built here a handsome house, south of the site of the priory: at his decease he left two daughters, his coheirs; one of whom married Dr. Robinson, the other married — Wyatt, of Candfield, esq. the former having purchased of the latter his moiety of the estate, resides at the house built by the late Rev. Mr. Ray.

Richard de Wendover, canon of St. Paul's, gave forty marks to buy lands that a canon of St. Paul's might, in the church of this priory, celebrate for the soul of the said Richard.

In the priory were buried some of the family of Montfichet, of de Vere, and of Barrington.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

In 1582 Edward Hubert, esq. gave to the parishioners of this place, for the use of the church, a rent charge of twenty shillings yearly out of Crouch meadow in Birchangre, payable at Michaelmas and Lady-day.

In 1593 the same gentleman gave for the like use, to the vicar, church-wardens and inhabitants, a rent charge of forty shillings yearly, out of the Moorfield and Little Burgatefield, in this parish.

In



In 1604, Elizabeth Cooke, otherwise Chapman, of this parish, gave an acre of arable land in Stansted Stony-field in Birchangre, of which the churchwardens are to receive the rent yearly, and to distribute it to ten poor widows of Stansted.

In 1609, the last-named benefactor gave Balls-Croft in Great Hallingbury, (which is now let at 30s. yearly) for the use of the poor of Stansted.

In 1612 Mr. Parnell Brown, of this parish, yeoman, gave an annuity of twenty shillings yearly out of lands called Revells in Stansted. To be paid yearly on Christmas-day in the north porch of the church.

In 1615 Dionysius Palmer of Felsted, gave out of a messuage and closes at Stortford, 52s. in Bread to the poor here; 2s. to the vicar, and 1s. to the churchwardens.

In 1705, Mrs. Gertrude Peck, of Little Sandford, Essex, gave to the poor here, 66l. 6s. 8d. which sum was laid out by the trustees in the purchase of four acres of arable land in Manuden, called Battles-garden; the rest of which is given in twenty-four loaves of bread every fortnight in the church \*

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was doubtless given to the priory of Thremhall, in this parish,† by Gilbert de Montficher, it's founder, and a vicarage ordained; but no certain

\* She left the like sum to Little Sandford, where she was born and buried; and the same to St. Giles in the Fields, where she resided in the winter.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. page 549.

endowment was assigned the vicar till the year 1441. 'The advowson of the vill' as it is expressed in the record,† was given to them by John de Lancaster. The proprietary of this rectory and patronage of the vicarage continued in the said prior and convent till their dissolution; when they were granted to John Cary and Joyce Walsingham. Wymond, son to John Carey, in 1589, sold the rectory and advowson of the vicarage to John and George Ray; and these sold them again in the year 1595 to John Rotheram, esq. by whom they were conveyed in 1598 to Edward Hubbard, esq. who mortgaged them to Miles Hubbard and the heirs of Thomas Tomlinson; which last named two jointly conveyed in 1600, the parsonage, rectory, and church of Stansted, and the glebelands and tythes to the said parsonage belonging, in the parishes of Bierden, Ugley, and elsewhere in Essex, and the advowson of the vicarage, to Sir Thomas Middleton, knt. from whom they passed as the rest of the estates did.

From the papers of the late Mr. John Reynolds, vicar, it appears that a modus is payable to the vicar out of the parsonage and great tythes of Stansted of 12l. yearly, which in 1664 was 12l. 12s. And that Thomas Middleton, esq. by his will, dated June 29, 1710, gave the tythegrass in his own parish, worth about 10l. a year, (excepting his own lands and farms,) to the vicarage for ever.

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† Inquis. 23 Edw. iv.

The vicarage-house, which stood in Bardford-street, being fallen down, Sir Thomas Middleton gave to Mr. Reynolds, for himself and succeeding vicars, a piece of ground of about two acres, in a most delightful situation, upon which he built a very good house, with convenient out houses; and made courtyards and elegant and useful gardens. The expence, according to his own computation, amounted to more than 1000*l.* of which, by his patron and the neighbouring gentlemen, 200*l.* was contributed. For this great improvement of the living Dr. Compton gave him the rectory of Thorley in Hertfordshire.

The church of Stansted, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is pleasantly situated on an eminence; the church and chancel are of one pace only. On the north side the chancel is a burial place for the Heath family. The whole is tiled. The steeple, which is of brick, contains five bells and a clock; upon this steeple, within the church, is an inscription as follows:

This steeple was rebuilt and the foundation new laid at the sole charge of Sir Stephen Langham, of Quinton in Northamptonshire, knt. whose only daughter was married to Sir James Middleton, knt. lord of the manor and patron of this church: as also the church was by him ceiled, repaired, and whited, and the porch rebuilt; all finished anno 1692.

The church is old, and in it are some very antique remains; among which the old carved seats or stalls, where the priests who chanted the service used to set, are left entire on the north side of the chancel; and though they are taken up on the south side, the timber

is still remaining. On the south side the church is an old pew, inclosed with lattices, which slide to and fro; and several other remains of it's old furniture and ornaments.

Within the chancel, upon a brass plate on the ground, is this inscription in old English characters:

*Hic jacet Robert de Bohyngg prim vicar ecclie pochial Stansted Mechet qui ob 11 Kam Sept. anno Dni 1361.*

The meaning of which is:

Here lies Robert de Bohyngg, the first vicar of the parish church of Stansted Mechet, who died on the 22d day of August, in the year of our Lord 1361.

On another brass plate on the ground in the chancel is this inscription:

*Ann Dni 1609 Georgium Ray generosum virum Dei immortalis colentissimum, mortaliumque omnium amantissimum, hoc marmor occultit.*

In English:

In the year of our Lord 1609, this marble covers George Ray, gent. a very devout worshipper of the immortal God, and a friend to all mankind.

In the same chancel on the ground is an epitaph for

Thomas Ray, gent. an ancient inhabitant of this parish, and Dorothy his wife, daughter of Henry Glascock of Farnham, esq. He departed this life May 4, 1692, in the 76th year of his age: she on May 15, 1701, in the 82d year of her age, having lived together man and wife 52 years.

Another inscription on the ground of the same chancel;

The

The burying place of Sir Stephen Langham, and his lady. Sir Stephen died Sept. 1, 1709, aged 81. His lady March 3, 1724, aged 84.

On the ground is an epitaph for

Richard Mills, gent. who died June 28, 1661, and Eleanor his wife, who died Jan, 18, 1705.

Under an arch in the wall, on the north side the chancel, is an effigy of a man as large as life; he is represented lying on his back with his hands folded in form of devotion: but no epitaph or inscription is to be seen: the inhabitants here have a tradition, that it represents the founder of the church.

On the south side the chancel is a sumptuous marble monument of excellent workmanship: it is about twenty feet high, and ten wide: under a spacious arch, richly decorated, is seen the effigy, as large as life, of the person whose memory this monument is designed to perpetuate; on each side the arch is the representation of an angel, supporting a large table of black marble, with the following inscription thereupon:

*Dēo opt. Sacra.*

*Repositum hic est Depositum Thomæ Middletonii, Militis, ex antiqua Middletonorum Ordovicensium familia oriundi, qui ab Ephæbis Londinum receptus, hinc. Negotiandi causa in exteras Regiones Missus. Locorum Linguarum, Mercium Morum peritissimus explorator: privata professionis suæ (mercatura) mysteria, tum publica Regni Negotia sub auspitiis Walsinghami (cui intime notus) summa integritate & singulari prudentia peragebat. Demum regressus Domum maximus urbis Honoribus: Vicecomes & Prætor Londini: laudatissime perfunctus Supremi Purpuratorum ordinis Aldermanis in senatus facile princeps ad mortem usq; permanfit. Nec Immemor qualem sibi & Reipub: apud exteros navasset operam,*



operam, gloriosissima Elizabethæ præcipuum in Monitis locum illius fidei demandavit. Vñ fuit omne virtutem laude cumulatissimus: Devotus in Deum; fidus in principem; pius in patriam, morigerus in amicos, officiosus in omnes, viduarum vero et orphanorum propugnator acerrimus, at quale suis columen et asylum, alios ad Dignitatem, omnes ad divitias promovebat. Quatuor sibi uxores desponsavit, duabus prioribus ex prima, Thomem Equitem auratum filium & hæredem; et secunda Timotheum et duas filias Hestheram Henrico Salusbury, Militis & Baronetta, nuptam (fata functam) & Mariam J. Mainard Nobilis Balnei ordinis Equiti sociatam postremo cunctis usq; quo optari potuit successu coronatis; pie & placide Animam cælo, corpus, humo, naturæ vitam (anhelans meliorem) reddidit. At memoriam Amicis, mærorem civibus, dolorum suis, desiderium sui bonis omnibus reliquit, die Aug. 12. an. sal. 1631, æt. suæ 81, (aut eo circiter) mortuus, et in hoc sacrario (sibi et suis conditio) sepultus.

Occubuit virtus, et in hoc inclusa sepulchro

Middletonorum gloria magna jacet.

Deditus esse Deo, patriæ pius, omnibus æquus

Londini celebras laude subire vices,

Indulgere bonis miseris solamen asylum,

Orphanis viduis, et Deus esse suis:

Nil opus est saxi: hoc pectora fida loquantur,

Illius illustant hæc monumenta rogam.

London belov'd hir knight hir citizen,

Lo: maior shrief chief of her aldermen,

The cities father good mens great example,

A prop to virtue pillar to the temple

A faithful patriot, the states well wisher,

The honor of his house, the poors refresher,

His soule hath quit these titles all of them

And exchanged London for Jerusalem.

Time hath already much impaired this beautiful piece of sculpture, and it is going into decay a great pace;

in some places it is with difficulty the Latin inscription can be made out; what follows is a translation of which into English;

Sacred to the most benificent God.

Here lie the remains of Sir Thomas Middleton, knight, descended from the ancient family of the Middletons of North Wales, who went in his early youth to London, from whence he was sent as a merchant into foreign parts. He made himself well acquainted with countries, and their languages, merchandize, and manners: he performed the private mysteries of his profession (that of a merchant) as well as the public business of the kingdom, under the auspices of lord Walsingham (to whom he was intimately known) with the greatest integrity, and an uncommon prudence. At length having returned home, he had the greatest honors of the city conferred upon him, those of sheriff and lord mayor of London. Having with the greatest applause, discharged these highest offices, he easily continued, to the time of his death, chief of the court of aldermen. Nor was the most glorious Elizabeth unmindful of the services he had done her and the state in foreign countries; for she made him chief of her council. He was a man of the greatest virtue; devout to his God, faithful to his prince, true to his country, courteous to his friends, respectful to all, the strictest defender of widows and orphans. But what a support and refuge to his own relations! some he advanced to honor; all to riches. He espoused four wives; by the first of whom he had Thomas, knt. a son and heir; by the second Timothy and two daughters, Esther, (deceased) who married Sir Henry Salisbury, knight and baronet, and Mary who married Sir J. Mainard, knight of the noble order of the Bath. At last, all his affairs having been continually crowned with the desired success, he piously and calmly resigned his soul to heaven, his body to the ground, in earnest expectation of a better life than this. But he left, to his friends, the remembrance of himself; to his fellow citizens, sorrow; to his relations, grief; to all good men, a sense of their loss. He died on the 12th day of August in the year of his salvation 1631; of his age 81 (or thereabouts) and is buried in this chancel

chancel (such is his condition, and such will be the condition of all his family.)

The English of the above Latin verses.

Virtue hath died ; and in this tomb lies inclosed the great glory of the Middletons.—There is no need of stones to perpetuate the memory of his having been devout to his God, true to his country, just to all men,—of his having discharged, with applause, the highest offices of the city of London ;—of his having afforded relief and protection to good men in distress, to orphans and widows,—and of his having been (as it were) a deity to his relations :—Faithful breasts declare these things,—these monuments adorn his grave.

On the north side the chancel is an altar monument with the effigy of a woman thereon as large as life, and dressed in the attire of the days she lived in ; at the west end of the monument is this inscription ;

Here lyeth the body of Hester Salusburye, late wyfe to Henrye Salisburye, of Llewennye, in the countye of Denbye, esq. eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Middleton, knt. alderman of the city of London, and lord of this manor. She died 26 Jan. 1604.

At the foot of the monument is her arms in basso relievo, and on each side is a cupid weeping, of exquisite workmanship.

A black marble stone loose, placed close to the arms, has these lines thereon ;

The passions which thou didst endure  
Sweet Saviour for my sin  
My soul's salvation did procure  
Though body rest herein.

# STANSTED MONTFICHET VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Jonathan Jackson, M. A.

William Heath. esq.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 43 19 7

£ 1 6 8

Ouendon

## Q U E N D O N

**I**S a small parish, situate between Ugley and Newport, on the great road from London to Newmarket, Cambridge, &c. from the former of which places it is distant about thirty-six miles; from Saffron Walden it is six, and from Bishop Stortford about the same distance: the soil is of various kinds, and the situation variable, some part of it being in a hollow, and some part hilly. The vill, on the road side, is small, and husbandry the chief employment of it's inhabitants. It is called Quendon from two Saxon words, signifying *Queen's-hill*. At the time of the conqueror's survey this parish belonged to Eudo Dapifer; and from him it descended to the noble families of Mandeville and Bohun; of which last family Humfrey earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, in 1372 had two daughters co-heirs; Eleanor married to Thomas of Woodstock duke of Gloucester; and Mary married to Henry earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry IV. The duke of Gloucester being murdered at Calais, was succeeded in his estates by his daughter Ann, who was married to Edmund earl of Stafford; and by a partition of the estates made in 1421 between the said Ann and king Henry V. son of Mary her aunt, this manor, then valued at 11l. 16s. fell to the king's share. He settled it upon

his queen Catharine, who was succeeded herein by Margaret, queen of king Henry VI. and afterwards by Elizabeth, queen of king Edward IV. from which time it remained in the crown till the year 1530; in 1533 it became the property of Thomas Newman, esq. but by what means we have not been able to learn: he built the house, which from him retains the name of Newman-hall: his daughter was his successor, and carried this manor among other possessions in marriage to James Wilford, esq. and in their family it continued from the year 1586 till 1645 when it passed to Mr. John Benson of London, and he alienated it to Samuel Gibbs, esq. alderman of that city; and of his family it was purchased by Thomas Turner, esq. who rebuilt Newman-hall, and inclosed it in a park. In 1717 his son John Turner, esq. sold this estate to John Maurice of Walthamstow, esq. of whose widow it was purchased by Joseph Cranmer, esq. of the Six Clerks Office in Chancery, and it belongs now to his son Henry Cranmer, esq. The hall stands pleasantly, about three quarters of a mile north from the church.

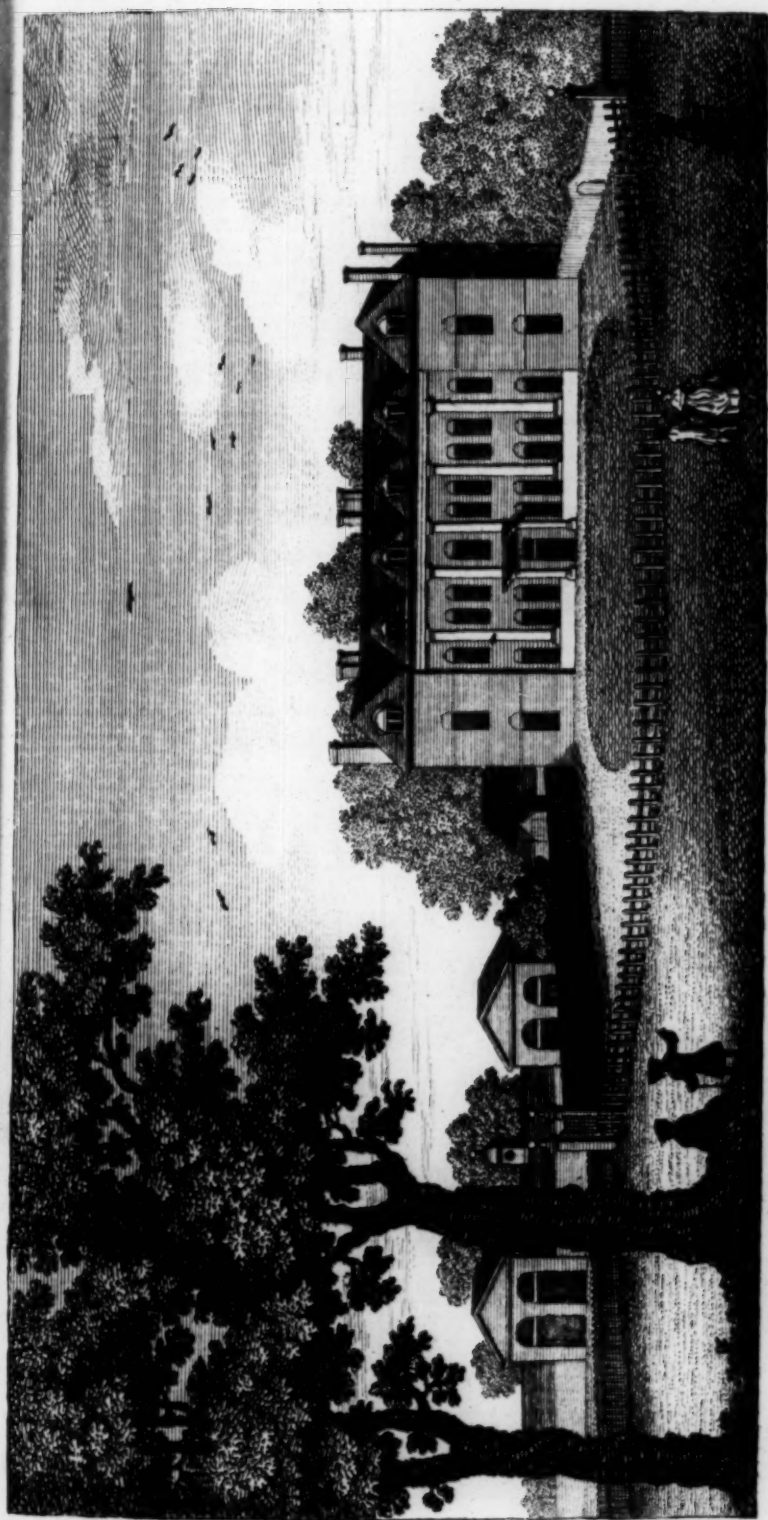
#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The rectory hath all along been appendant to the manor.

The church, which is small, consists of a body and a south ayfle; the chancel is of one pace only; the whole is tiled: in the belfrey is one small bell.

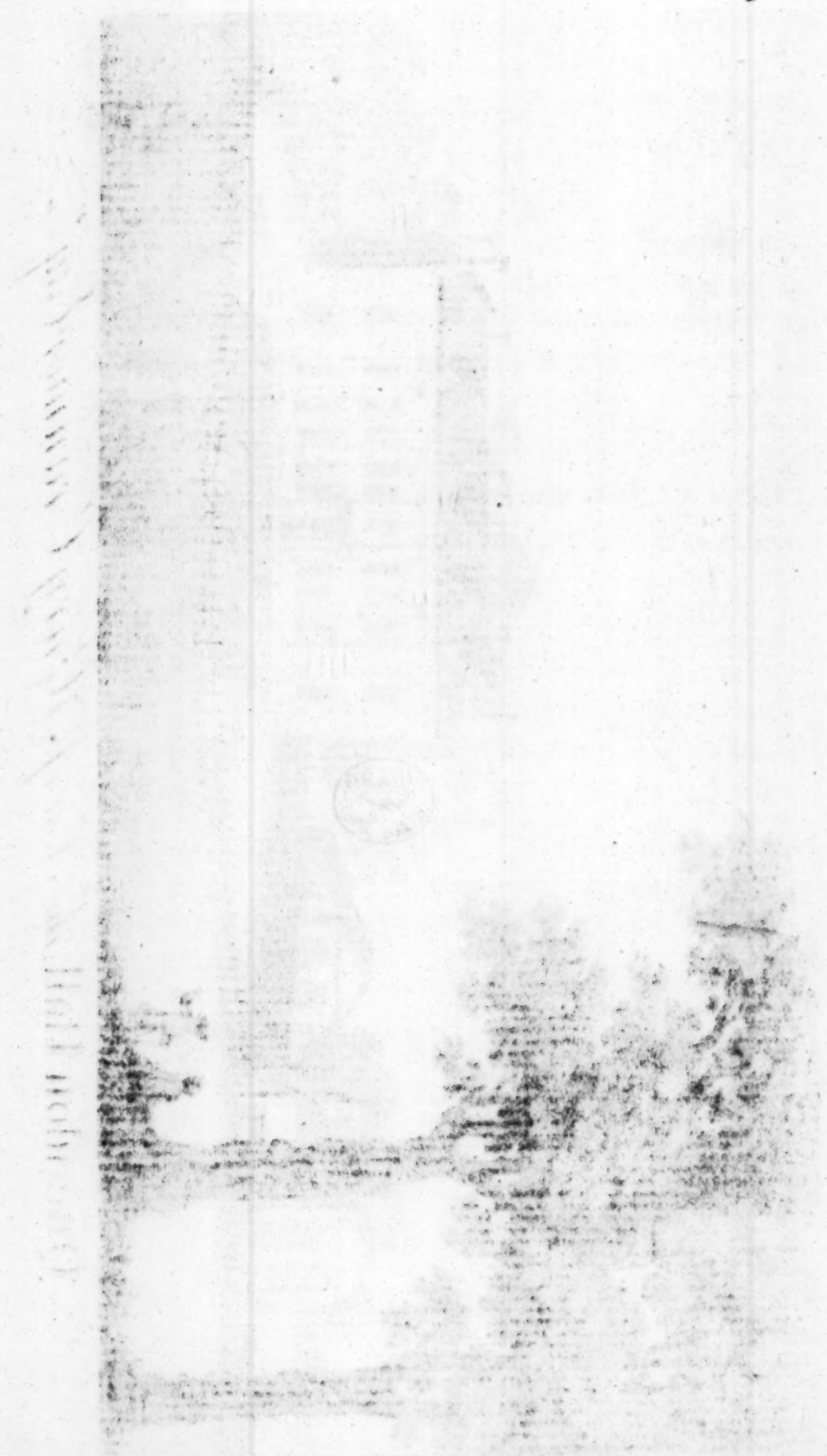
In





W. H. Stiles sculp.

Quendon Hall, the Seat of Henry Cranmer Esq.



*Handwritten text, possibly a signature or title, running vertically along the left side of the illustration.*

In the chancel is a neat mural monument, with an epitaph for

Thomas Turner of Numan-hall, in this parish, esq son and heir of Thomas Turner, late of Westley-hall in Cambridgeshire, esq. His first wife was Jemima, daughter of Thomas Waldgrave, of Smalibridge in Suffolk, esq. His second and last wife was Catharine, daughter of Robert Cheake, of Pergo in this county, esq. He died Feb. 24, 1681, aged 39. His wife Catharine died June 13, 1685, aged 38.

Upon the ground is an epitaph for

Ann, wife of Samuel Gibbs, esq. who died Feb. 22, 1649, aged 22.

In the church, upon the floor, is an epitaph for

John Morrice, who died Feb. 13, 1734, aged 52.

Ann, his wife, who died March 18, 1743.

Catharine, Jane, Sarah, and Hannah, their daughters.

# QUENDON RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Thomas Croucher, M. A.  
1764.

Henry Cranmer, esq.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 41 0 0

£ 0 18 0

E 2

Rickling

## R I C K L I N G

**A**DJOINS Quendon upon the west. Quendon parish takes in all the high road, and the houses on the east side of it; and Rickling parish extends to some of the houses upon the west side of the road. Rickling parish is but small, and has not in it so many houses as Quendon: in length it is about two miles, and in breadth one and a half; from London, Waldon, and Stortford it is about the same distance as Quendon is. At the time of the general survey it belonged to the Conqueror. Herein is one manor only, but it is divided into two parts or moieties: the mansion-house, called Rickling-hall, stands about three quarters of a mile south from the church, in a very agreeable situation. In the neighbourhood are the most delightful fields of the county, called southern-hills. The house has yet something remaining about it of ancient grandeur; the walls, which are of brick, are very thick; in the middle there was a square court, the windows of which were long and narrow, set round with free stone. A gateway remains, arched also with free stone, now converted into a parlour; it hath a stone wall, and one end very much resembles a chapel or oratory. It seems to have been embattled, and formerly had a moat all round it, part of which is still remaining; the artificial mount on  
it's

it's south-west side may have been a keep, or dungeon, which was left when the other works were razed; but of this we have not any traces in history or tradition, except in general, that in the wars between Maud and Stephen, and between king John and his barons, there was much havock of this kind made, for revenge, or for weakening the enemy. A room here lately went by the name of *the king's parlour*, where it may be presumed, some prince had been entertained; it has been a custom in the reign of queen Elizabeth and in those of king Charles I. and II. for gentlemen to record such honour done them in that manner.—The next possessor upon record, from William the conqueror to king John, is Beatrix de Say, sister to Geoffrey and William de Mandeville, earls of Essex, who, for want of heirs male, inherited the great estates of that family. We find it next in the family of Walden, who were succeeded herein by that of Langley, who made it their chief seat, and from that family it took the name of *Langley Wildbores*: the next family who became owners of this estate is that of Cutts, of whom it was purchased by Thomas Mitchell, gent. from him it descended to the late owner, Thomas Mitchell, esq. and is now in his heirs.

The other part of this manor belonged to Turner, Wilford, and Newman, lords of the parish of Quendon. By a deed of partition made in the year 1575, between Henry Cutts of Bynburge in Kent, esq. and Thomas Newman, of Quendon, gent. it was agreed that the said Henry Cutts should make a division of  
the



the said manor and premisses into two parts, and that the said Thomas Newman should chuse which part he pleased: however, this moiety was not one equal half; for it is said to be let only for about 100l. a year, whereas the part above described is 300l.

Distinct courts are kept for these two parts, but at no certain times. If any tenants die, or copyhold lands are alienated, then courts are appointed, that the freehold tenants may pay their reliefs; and the copyhold tenants may be admitted, paying their fines, which are uncertain. There belong to these manors both a court-leet and a court-baron.

By the road-side in this parish, Dr. Boscawen has got a very pleasant house.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Two acres of land, worth about twenty shillings yearly, were given to the poor of this parish; of which the rent is distributed in bread by the overseers.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church being anciently appendant to the manor, passed therewith to Geoffrey de Say, and he gave it to Walden-abbey. The great tythes were appropriated to them, and a vicarage ordained, in 1237, of which the collation was reserved to the bishops of London, and hath continued in that see ever since.

The

The great tythes belong to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's.

In 1729, the vicarage was augmented by Mr. Henry Rix's executrix, with 202l. to which was added queen Ann's bounty.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, or All Saints, is of stone, tiled, as in the chancel; the church hath a south ayfle, leaded; the chancel is of one pace only; a square steeple, with a small spire at top, leaded, contains five bells.

On a mural monument on the north side the church, is this inscription:

Near this place lieth interred the body of Robert Turner, gent. third son of Edmund Turner, of Waldon, gent. (and Elizabeth his wife) lord of one part of the manor of Rickling. He died Feb. 2, 1657. This monument was erected by John Turner his brother, and sole executor.

## RICKLING VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

Henry Rix, B. A.  
1728.

PATRON.

Bishop of London.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£ 36 0 0

TENTHS.

£ 1 0 0

Newport.

## NEWPORT.

THIS is a pretty town, neighbouring upon Walden, and situate upon the river Grant, which runs to Cambridge; it is bounded on the north by Wickham-Bonhunt and part of the parish of Walden; on the east by Debden; on the south by Widdington, Quendon, and Rickling; and on the west side by part of Rickling and Clavering; the high road from London to Newmarket, Cambridge, &c. runs near three miles in this parish; which is distant from London about thirty-seven miles; from Walden about three; and from Stortford nine; in length it measures near three miles, in breadth it is computed to be about one and a half: the town (which gives name to the deanry of Newport,) consists chiefly of one long street; the buildings in it are in general neat, though not elegant: by husbandry, and a few shops which supply the town and the neighbouring villages, are the inhabitants chiefly supported; but what is something extraordinary, that notwithstanding the town is so great a thoroughfare, here is not a good inn. A fair is held here on the 17th of November, which the country people call cold-fair or colt-fair, at which many Welsh, and other cattle are sold, and likewise great quantities of saffron, the product of the neighbouring fields. Another

ther fair is held here upon Easter Tuesday, chiefly for horned cattle: here is likewise a toll-bridge, where waggons pay two pence each forwards and backwards; all led horses 1d. each; sheep and cattle of all kinds four-pence a score; but for all numbers under a score they pay a penny for each one; and for a bull four-pence: from paying of this toll the following seven places are exempted; namely, Walden, Audeley-end, Great and Little Chesterford, Wendons, Quendon, and Widdington: the toll-bridge is supported by lord Thomond, owner of the manor. This was a market town till queen Maud gave Geoffrey de Mandeville leave to remove it from hence to Walden, where his castle was. At the north end of the town, in the road to Quendon, are the ruins of a cross that seem very ancient, and is mentioned in a charter of William de Magnaville.\* As to the origin of the name, Dr. Salmon observes, that it was given by the Saxons, and is generally found where a Roman military way has been, as at *Newport* in Bucks, and *Newport* in Shropshire. There are also ways called Port-ways; one particularly from Alcester towards Birmingham in Warwickshire. It hath been called *Newport-pond*, (saith Norden) from a pond at the south end of the town now dried up: however, after the above, and several other conjectures which we could produce, the real reason why it is so named is as much unknown now as ever; we shall therefore proceed to a further

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\* Monastic. Anglic. Vol. I. p. 460.

description of this parish, which we find at the time of the general survey was part of the royal demesnes, and belonged to William the conqueror; and the capital

Manor of NEWPORT seems to have continued in the crown till the reign of king Edward VI. and to have been granted by the several kings of England to divers persons at their pleasure, with ample privileges, market, fair, and freedom of toll.

The empress Maud (as we have hinted above) gave this town to Geoffrey de Mandeville, with leave to remove the market from hence to his castle at Walden; with all the customs, privileges, and tolls belonging to that market, and to turn the way from Newport near the river-side to Walden. This seems to be the way by Shortgrove.—King John granted a fair here in 1203 to Gerard de Furnevall; but in about four years afterwards he gave up his patent and surrendered the town and castle of Newport to the same king.—In like manner it was granted by several succeeding kings, till the reign of king Edward VI. who in 1550 granted this manor of Newport, with appertenances, part of the duchy of Cornwall, to Richard Fermer. It was afterwards Sir Ralph Warren's, then his son Richard's; then his nephew Oliver Cromwell's. It was afterwards purchased by one of the noble family of Suffolk. Theophilus earl of Suffolk enjoyed it in the year 1635, and upon partition of the estates this was allotted to the right hon. George William Harvey, earl of Bristol, who sold it  
to



to the late right hon. earl of Thomond, and it is now in his successor the present earl of Thomond.

The manor of SHORTGROVE hath a large stately mansion pleasantly situate on the top of a hill, on the right hand side of the road from London to Cambridge. Upon entering the great gates by the road side, a spacious lawn presents itself, gradually rising to the view, which is terminated by the hall; the foot of this lawn is washed by the river Cam (or *Grant*) cut into the form of a large canal, over which his present lordship has built a very elegant stone bridge of three arches: the lawn is encompassed by fine plantations: from the hall is commanded a most pleasing, though not extensive, view of the country around: on its north-west side is Wendon, on its south-west side Newport church; in the front by the road side, is a small building, faced with stone, erected by his lordship, and called the Temple; behind the house is another spacious lawn, decorated likewise with plantations, gardens, and canals, which are served with water thrown up from the river Cam below, by an engine contrived by Dr. Desaguliers. The present house was built in the year 1685, by Giles Dent, esq. then owner of this estate; and the wings were added to it by the right hon. Henry O'Brien, earl of Thomond in Ireland, and viscount Tadcaster, at the time he possessed it; the whole of which has of late been much improved. At the time of the general survey this estate was holden by Eustace earl of Bologne, and his under tenant Adelolf de

Mere ; and by Robert Gernon, who had also Widdington. Some are of opinion, that Shortgrove was anciently distinct from, and independent of, Newport, because it is entered in a different place in domesday-book ; is called in the red book of the exchequer *near* Newport, and in a charter of king Henry II. is stiled the vill of Shortgrove : but this opinion is erroneous, because it is expressly said in a rental of king Henry I. to be in the parish of Newport. It belonged as early as in the reign of king Henry II. to the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew near Smithfield, in London ; but by whom it was given to them doth not appear. The demesnes and profits of it, in 1305, were two hundred and forty acres of arable, six acres of meadow, five of pasture ; feed for one hundred sheep ; 49s. 1d. rent of assize ; the work of free and customary tenants, worth 36s. a year, perquisites of court 6s. 8d. for they had here view of frank-pledge. Within this same manor they held in Widdington other lands and tenements of Robert Lenvyse ; and at Debden twenty acres of land of Sir Reginald de Grey. How the Finderne family of the neighbouring parishes of Debden and Widdington became possessed of this estate, we cannot learn, but in the year 1515 we find Sir William Finderne died possessed of this estate, as did his grandson Thomas in 1523. It was next in the Elrington family ; and the next owner to them, upon record, is Giles Gent, citizen and alderman of London, who died in 1670, and was succeeded by his son Giles. It was afterwards sold to the right hon.

hon. Henry O-Brien, mentioned above, who dying in April 1741, left by will this estate to his nephew Percy Wynham, esq. who took the surname of O-Brien, and was created earl of Thomond in November, 1756: at his death he was succeeded in title and estate by the present owner and occupier of this seat.

An HOSPITAL here, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Leonard, was founded by Richard, son of Serlo, of Newport, in the reign of king John, for a master and two chaplains, under the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean of St. Martin's in London. It was endowed with lands in this parish, and in those of Widdington, Great Wendon, Arkesden, Elmton, Wickham, Hempsted, Bumpsted-Helion, &c. In the year 1345 John Flamerd gave the master and brethren of this hospital two messuages, twenty acres of arable, five of meadow, and three and a half of pasture, to find a priest to sing mass for the soul of the said John in the chapel of St. Elene, within the manor of Bonhunt, that belonged to him. The fair, which was granted here to be kept on Leonard's-day, was for the benefit of this house. A very old building, supposed to be the original fabric, stands on the right hand side the road to Walden, in that part of the town called the hamlet of Birchangre, which is the part that lies beyond the toll-bridge, on each side the way leading to Walden. Upon the suppression this hospital was valued at 3*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* in the whole, and 2*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.* in the clear; and granted by king Henry VIII. to  
Sir

Sir Martin Bowes, who in October, 1545, alienated it to Sir Ralph Warren, alderman of London; and from him it has passed to the same owner, and in like manner as the capital manor of Newport has done.

SPARROW END is a cluster of houses between this town and Walden, about a mile and a half north from this church.

### Charitable Benefactions.

Here is a good free grammar-school, with an endowment, founded in 1588, as appears by the following inscription upon a brass plate affixed against the school-house :

The fre grammar-schole of Newport. an. dom. 1588 by Mistris Joice Frankland widow daughter of Robert Trappes of London goldsmith deceased and by William Saxie her son.

The endowment we are told, is eighty pounds a year : in trustees.

A farm of twenty pounds a year called Gaces, was given by Mr. John Covell, and Agnes his wife, to help people who are decayed in their estates, but receive no collection. In trustees.

A gift of thirteen shillings yearly to the poor of this parish, by Mrs. Martin of Crisshall, which is paid by the churchwardens of Crisshall.

A gift of five shillings yearly to the same poor, by Mr. Stratton.

A gift

A gift of six shillings a year to six poor widows, by Mr. Richard Coleman of Duxford in Cambridgeshire, paid by his heirs.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church belonged before the year 1353 to the collegiate church of St. Martin le Grand in London, which had the jurisdiction of the vicarage. When king Henry VII. gave the collegiate church of St. Martin to the monastery of St. Peter; with it, the church and advowson of the vicarage came to the abbey of Westminster, and so continued till the suppression, when it devolved to the crown. It was afterwards made part of the endowment of the bishop of Westminster, but king Edward VI. suppressed that bishopric in April 1550, and annexed this church, with other exemptions, to the diocese of London, the advowson of the vicarage remaining in the crown, in which it has continued ever since.

In the beginning of this century this vicarage was reckoned but about thirteen pounds a year; since when it has received an augmentation of five pounds yearly for ever from Geoffry Howland, esq. Giles Gent, esq. gave a piece of land in Widdington, and one hundred pounds; and Mrs. Rebecca Dent, two hundred pounds towards a further augmentation of it; to which was added queen Ann's bounty.

The rectory and great tythes, which were vested in St. Martin le Grand and Westminster-abbey, belonged to Sir John Spencer, who died possessed of them in  
the



the year 1609. They were afterwards in Giles Dent, esq. and now belong to Henry Cranmer, of Quendon, esq.

The church called the queen's free chapel, and dedicated to St. Mary, stands on a rising ground a small distance from the road, on the left hand side in going to Cambridge: it is large and stately, and built cathedralwise: it hath two ayfles, and a spacious middle pace, all leaded: the chancel is large, but of one pace only: on it's north side adjoins a vestry. A lofty stone tower at the west end contains five bells. Both church and steeple have lately undergone a thorough repair, having last summer been much damaged by lightening. The pictures of Moses and Aaron in this church, are esteemed verely fine paintings.

In the chancel, against the north wall, is a mural monument, with this inscription thereupon:

In a vault underneath, lies the body of Dame Mary Brograve, youngest daughter of Sir John Hewett, late of Warefley, in the county of Huntingdon, bart. She was married to Sir Thomas Brograve, of Hamels in the county of Hertford, bart. who dying in the year 1670, she was married to Giles Dent of this parish, esq. son and heir of Giles Dent, late citizen and alderman of London, and departed this life Sept. 20, 1704, in the 68th year of her age. Here also lies Giles Dent, her said husband: he died Feb. 5, 1711-12, aged 78.

He built Shortgrove-hall in this parish in the year 1684.

On a marble stone in the south wall of the chancel is written:

Here

Here lies the body of Mrs. Mary Knightly, fifth daughter of the Rev. Mr. Knightly, and Ann his wife, of this parish. She died in the 20th year of her age, the fifth of Dec. 1761, a maid.

Within the communion rails, upon the floor, is a stone with the effigy of a man and a woman in brass; and likewise an epitaph for

Katharine Nightingale, wife to Geffrye Nightingale, who had issue between them seven children: She died Nov. 9, 1608, aged 54. A grave and modest matron; shee was lovinge and faithfull to her husbände, careful and tender over her children, kinde to her freends, vurtuous to all, helpefull to the poor, hurtfull to none.

Upon a black marble stone adjoining, is a brass plate with an epitaph for

William Knightly, citizen and merchant of London, son to the above-named Geffrey and Katharine, who after three jornees out of Turkey from Egypte and Sydon, departed this life July 19, 1609, aged 30.

Here are likewise on a stone on the ground epitaphs for

Giles Dent, citizen and Salter of London, who died Jan. 29, 1670, aged 68. [He was father to the above-mentioned Giles Dent, esq.]

Margaret Firmin, widow of Thomas Firmin, citizen of London, deceased, and daughter of Giles Dent, esq. She died Jan. 14, 1719, aged 78.

Giles Firmin, son of Thomas Firmin by Margaret his wife, daughter of Giles Gent, esq. He died Jan. 22, 1693, at Oporto in Portugale, from whence he was brought to this place and interred.

# 50 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

On the ground in the south ayfle is a stone, with the effigy of two persons thereon in brass, and this inscription underneath them :

Here lieth Thomas Brond, whos soule God pardon. He died in 1515.

On a brass legend which goes round the stone is written :

Pray for the soule of Thomass Bronde and Margery his wyfe, whiche Thomas decessed the 21st day of Sep. 1515, on whose soules God have mercy. Amen

In the south ayfle on the ground is an epitaph for

Dame Elizabeth Nightingale, who died Aug. 23, 1686, aged 74. And Elizabeth Cummins her onely daughter, widow, who died Nov. 9, 1684, aged 48.

In the middle pace is an epitaph on the ground for

The Rev. Henry Rix, somtime vicar and master of the free grammar school of this parish, and of Mary his wife. Of John and Alexander Crofs, and of Mrs. Mary Crofs, relict of Alexander, merchant of London, daughter of the above-named Henry and Mary Rix, and mother of John and Alexander Crofs. She died Nov. 28, 1739, aged 71.

## NEWPORT VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

John Rix, M. A.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£. 20 0 0

PATRON.

The King.

TENTHS.

£. 0 19 0

WICKHAM

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## WICKHAM BONHUNT.

**T**HIS little parish adjoins to the north side of Newport and to the east side of Clavering; from the former of which parishes it is separated by a water called Bonhunt Water: it is about a mile square: it's distance from Walden is about five miles: it's situation rather low: here are very few houses, the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by husbandry and spinning. The name is written various ways in old records, and the addition of Bonhunt, from one of the manors in this parish, seems to have been for the sake of distinguishing it from the two other parishes in this county, named *Wickham St. Paul*, and *Wickham Bishops*. At the time of the general survey Wickham belonged to Gislebert, and the manor of Bonhunt to one Saiffelin.

Wickham-hall adjoins the church-yard, and Bonhunt-hall is near half a mile north-east from the same.

But very little accounts can be had of this parish, from records or otherwise.— However the two manors seem to have been distinct till the reign of queen Elizabeth, when they were reckoned as one.

The manor of WICKHAM belonged for several generations to the family of Barlee; from whom it passed to Robert Chatterton, and he sold it to Matthew Bradbury, esq. who was succeeded by his eldest

son William, and he had for his successor his eldest son Matthew, who was succeeded by a son of the same name: Francis, his son, was his successor, and at his death his daughter Dorinda carried it in marriage to Joseph Sharpe, esq. which two joined in a mortgage of the manor and royalty to — Martin, esq. the present possessor; and in a sale of the perpetual advowson to Dr. Phillip Gretton of Springfield in this county, whose eldest son and heir is now the incumbent and patron thereof.

With respect to the manor of BONHUNT, mention is made, that in 1340 John Flambard, of Bonhunt, had licence to endow St. Leonard's hospital at Newport, that the brethren might find him a chaplain to celebrate mass for his soul within his manor of Bonhunt, in the chapel of St. Elene there. In 1436, and for several generations after, it was in the family of Grene; after whom it was enjoyed by those of Bradbury and Nightingale. It belongs now to Henry Cranmer, of Quendon, esq.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is of stone, small, and of one pace with the chancel, tiled; a low wooden steeple contains three bells.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a handsome marble monument, on which is represented the person to whose memory it is there placed, as rising from his grave at the sound of the last trumpet, attended by cherubs, &c. who appear to be carrying him up to heaven: below this fine piece of sculpture is the following inscription:

Near



Near this place lies buried  
 the body of that hopeful youth  
 JOHN JAMES BRADBURY, gent.  
 the son and heir apparent of  
 Matthew Bradbury of this parish, esq.  
 And Mary his wife,  
 who departed this life, Nov. 27, 1731  
 aged 10 years,

Beneath the sleeping infant lies,  
 To earth whose body's lent,  
 More glorious shall hereafter rise  
 Yet not more innocent.  
 When the archangel's trump shall blow  
 And *souls* to *bodies* join,  
 What crowds below might wish their lives  
 Had been as short as mine?  
 You who more strict account must give  
 Prepare as low to lie,  
 You who know what it is to live  
 Learn what it is to die.  
 I now enjoy the fairs delight  
 My sins they are forgiven,  
 My darling soul hath took it's flight  
 To glorious rest in heaven.

In the chancel are epitaphs for  
 John, son of Francis Bradbury, who died in 1693.  
 Francis, his son, who died in 1695.  
 Ann his daughter, wife of John Barrel, gent. who died in 1697.

## WICKHAM BONHUNT RECTORY.

INCUMBENT AND PATRON.

Charles Gretton, M. A. 1765.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

£. 11 0 0

TENTHS:

£. 1 2 0

Arksden.

## A R K S D E N.

**T**HIS parish adjoins the last described one upon its north side : is distant from Walden between three and four miles, and from Stortford about ten : it is computed to be about three miles long, and near the same in breadth : the soil is of various kinds, some light, some heavy ; it is watered by a stream which rises in, and runs through this parish to Wickham. The houses here are few, and husbandry and spinning the chief employment of the inhabitants. There are entries in domesday book of several manors in this parish, not to be distinguished at this time : here are the manors of Woodhall, and Mynchyns or the Parsonage.

The mansion to the first-named manor is a good old house on a rising ground, about half a mile south of the church. This manor is called in the rolls the manor of Arkfdon and Woodhall, otherwise Chawdwells. At the time of the general survey it was holden by Eudo Dapifer, whose daughter and heir Margaret carried it in marriage to William de Mandeville. We find that soon afterwards it was given by king Henry II. to Henry, son of Gerold the chamberlain ; since when it has passed through the families of Fortz, earl of Albemarle ; Bayeux, Burton, Hotoft, Langley, Marshal, Cutt, Maynard, and Cheeke, in which last family

family it remains, being the property of Miss Cheeke, a minor.

The manor of MYNCHENS, or the PARSONAGE, otherwise *Beckets*, at the time of the conqueror's survey belonged to Robert Gernon; and about the year 1327 we find it belonged to the nunnery of Campsey in Suffolk, but by whom it was given to them we cannot discover. The prioress and convent having demised it for a term of years to the abbot and convent of Walden, king Edward III. in 1364 granted leave to the prioress and convent to release to the said abbot and monastery, and their successors for ever, all their right in this manor; and the abbey held it till their dissolution, when king Henry VIII. granted it to Sir Thomas Audeley, with the advowson of this vicarage, which has always gone with this manor and the rectory. Margaret, daughter to Sir Thomas, carried it among other very great estates to her husband Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; and the duke, in 1562, sold this manor of Mynchens, the rectory of Arkesden, and a tenement called Sheperers to Richard Cutts, esq. and from him they have passed as the rest of the Cutts estates in this parish.

Here is likewise another manor known by the name of BOKELES, so called from an ancient owner. In 1584 Thomas Meade, esq. died possessed of it; since then it hath passed through the families of Smith, Hanchet, and some others, to the present owner Alexander Forbes, esq.

Church,

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of stone, embattled and tiled, as likewise is the chancel; the former hath two ayssles, leaded; the latter is of one pace only. In a square stone tower, embattled, are six bells; on the top of the tower is a small spire.

In the south chancel is a large altar monument of stone, painted and decorated; on the tomb are the effigies of the two persons whose memory it perpetuates, as large as life, represented lying on their backs, with hands uplifted; six pillars support a noble canopy, upon which is engraven their arms, and the following inscription:

Heare lieth Richard Cutte esquier sonne and heire to Peter Cutte esquier sonne and heir to John Cutte esquier sonne and heir to Richard Cutte esquier, which Richard was brother to Sir John Cutte of Horram Hall in Thaxted treasurer of the most honourable household of the mighty king Henry 8. This Richard died 16 Aug 1592. Heare lyeth also Mary Cutte, late wife of this Richard and daughter of Edward Elrington of Thoydon Boys in Essex esq. chief butler of England to the most renowned K. Edward 6, Q. Mary, and Q. Elizabeth. This Mary died 20 Jan. 1594.

The effigies of their four sons and two daughters are done in miniature, and placed round the tomb with their names over their heads; the eldest son is at the west end, and the others on the south side.

The following are the inscriptions over them:

RICHARD CUTTE, eldest son of this Richard and Mary Cutte, who caused this monument to be erected.

William,

WILLIAM, their second son, married Ann, daughter of Daniel Betenham, of Pluckly in Kent, esq.

FRANCIS, third son, married Katherin daughter of John Bondail, of Spanton in Yorkshire esquier.

JOHN youngest son.

BARBARA eldest daughter, married Roger Godlase, of Bucknam-ferry in Norfolk esq.

DOROTHY youngest daughter, married Thomas Bendish, of Steeple Bumpsted, in Essex, esq.

Upon the south side the chancel is a neat mural monument, with this inscription :

In a vault underneath this monument lieth interred the body of Richard Cheeke of the county of Dorset, esq. who departed this life the 21st of Dec. 1740, in the 71st year of his age.

His escutcheon is over his monument, as likewise is his son's.

On a neat marble mural monument inclosed by iron palisadoes, is the busts, finely executed, of the two persons to whose memory it is erected : over their heads is placed a cherub, and above that, on a pediment, their arms ; beneath the busts in this inscription :

M. S.

Johannes Withers de Medio Templo : qui sub hoc marmore

unacum præcharissima conjuge Anna

filia Richardi Cutts armig. (quondam de hoc parachio)

jacet

hic postquam vixerat annos 73 obiit

nempe Novembris xxviii annoq. Dom.

1692.

Illa vero florente ætate

patruo charissimo, & de se optime merito Guliel. Withers

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H

nepos



53 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

nepos & hæres, hoc monumentum gratitudinis ergo  
posuit.

Beati obdormientis in Domino.

In English :

Sacred to the memory  
Of John Withers of the Middle Temple, who lies under this marble,  
together with his dearly beloved wife Ann,  
the daughter of Richard Cutts esq. (formerly of this parish)  
he after having lived 73 years, died,  
namely on the 28th of November,  
and in the year of our Lord 1692 ;  
but she in the bloom of youth.

William Withers, nephew and heir,  
erected this monument, as a testimony of his gratitude  
to his very dear and worthy uncle.

Blessed are those who sleep in the Lord.

ARKESDEN VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

John Bott, M. A.

Miss Cheeke.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE

TENTHS.

£. 43 8 9

£. 1 6 8

Wendon.

## W E N D O N.

**H**ERE are three contiguous parishes of this name, known from each other by the appellations of *Great*, *Little*, and *Loughts*; which three parishes not being thus distinguished in domesday-book, but all three mentioned under the name of Wendon, it is reasonable to conjecture that at that time they were only one parish.

## G R E A T W E N D O N

Is that part, or parish which adjoins to the north side of Arkesden, and is separated from Newport by a small rivulet: it is distant from Walden about two; from Stortford about ten, and from London forty miles; and in circumference is computed to be about seven: the village, which is situate not far from the great road from London to Newmarket, stands upon a declivity, is small, and the inhabitants of it are chiefly supported by husbandry: here is a presbyterian meeting, with a burial-ground belonging to it; in the meeting divine worship is performed every other Sunday, the teacher attending alternately on Sundays in this and at a meeting at Clavering. This parish, at the time of the general survey, belonged to Robert Gernon, who was succeeded herein by his heirs the

Montfichet and afterwards the Plaiz family ; of which latter it was held by the Berkeley family ; the successors of whom are not recorded in a clear manner till we find that Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Fray, chief baron of the exchequer, carried it in marriage to Sir Thomas Waldgrave : the next family who possessed it was that of John Barker, gent. who purchased it in the year 1571 ; and from his family it is conjectured to have been purchased by some of the noble family of the earls of Suffolk, upon the partition of whose estates this manor and that of Little Wendon, with the united advowsons of both churches, were allotted to the right hon. the earl of Bristol.

### LITTLE WENDON

AT the time of the general survey belonged to William de Warren, and afterwards to the Knightly family of Fitz-Ralph of Pebmarsh. We find the principal part of this, as well as of the foregoing parish, to have passed through the families of Cavendish, Fray, and Waldgrave, to the present owner, in like manner as that parish has done.

In rates Great Wendon bears two parts ; this parish one only.

Clanmer, or Clanfield-end is a hamlet in this parish.

Charitable Benefaction.

Mrs. Martin's gift of about three pounds a year.

Church,

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was anciently in the priory of Barnwell near Cambridge, founded by Pain Peverell in 1112. A vicarage was erected, to which the convent presented till their dissolution, when king Henry VIII. granted the rectory and advowson to John Gate, esq. In 1550 Mr. Gate sold them to Nicholas Rookes, who in three years afterwards sold them to Thomas Cotten, gent. and Joane his wife, which two, in 1569 alienated them to William Waldgrave, esq. who sold them to Mr. John Barker, and of his son Richard they were purchased by the noble family of Suffolk.

In 1662 the two parishes of Great and Little Wendon were united by bishop Sheldon at the request of the inhabitants, and with the consent of the earl of Suffolk, patron of the two churches. The church of Little Wendon and the vicarage house of Great Wendon being ruinous were pulled down, and the parsonage house of Little Wendon being in best repair, remains to the vicar of Wendon Amboo, as he is stiled in the act of union.

The church of Little Wendon stood on the left-hand side of the road leading from Wendon Loughts to Great Wendon: but there are no remains of it left; several ashes grow on the spot where it stood.

The church of Great Wendon, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, stands pleasantly on a rising ground; it  
consists

## 62 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

consists of a body and two ayfles: the north one leaded: the south one half leaded and half tiled; and the body and chancel (which is of one pace only) are both tiled: a square tower, with a small spire thereon, hath five bells.

Upon the north side Great Wendon church is a mural monument, without date, to the memory of Mr. Ambrose Andrews.

### GREAT WENDON VICARAGE and LITTLE WENDON RECTORY, united.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Robert Fiske, M. A.

Earl of Bristol,

1741

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 44 17 6

£ 0 14 0

## WENDON LOUGHTS

**I**S the adjoining one to the last described parish, by which it is bounded on the south, and by Elm-den on the north: by Littlebury and part of Walden on the east; and by Great Chishull and Creshall on the west side: the road to and from this parish to that of Great Wendon is not to be excelled for its pleasantness by any one in the county; and which, as it cannot be described, we shall not attempt it: the  
houses



houses in this parish, are but few, of which the chief one is

The mansion of the manor of WENDON-LOUGHTS, which stands near the church : it is a large old edifice, with an inner court ; behind it are several offices ; on its north side pleasant gardens ; on the south a fine canal ; and (being situate on the summit of a lofty hill) commands a most extensive and pleasing prospect from the front, and sides : the late and present worthy owners have expended large sums in improving the great advantages which nature hath bestowed upon this spot, and have rendered this residence one of the most delightful in the whole county. As the greatest part of this parish, at the time of the general survey, belonged to Ralph Baynard, this manor, which is the principal one here, of course was his ; and upon the forfeiture of William his grandson, seems to have been given by the crown to the Fitz-Walter family. In 1476 Richard Knesworth released it to John Shelley : in 1559 Thomas Crawley, esq. held this manor of the earl of Suffolk, as of his manor of Wimbish. some years afterwards we find it in the family of Meade, in whom it continued for several generations and was purchased of them by Richard Chamberlain, esq. citizen of London, and sheriff of this county in 1722. It was afterwards sold in chancery, to Nathaniel Wilkes, esq. and is now in his son John Wilkes, esq.

DODENHALL-GRANGE is another manor in this parish, the mansion of which, pleasantly situated

on

on the edge of the champion, stands in this parish; but the outhouses are in Elmdon. About the year 1406 this manor was given to Tiltey-abbey, by whom we cannot learn; and upon its suppression was granted by king Henry VIII. to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk: in 1556 Sir Giles Paulet possessed it; it was afterwards in Hugh Benfoy, esq. Robert King, Hugh King, John Hancher, his grandson, John, and is now in — Forbes, esq.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The rectory belonged to the abbey of Lesnes in Kent, who presented it till their suppression, when it came to the crown. It belonged afterwards to Thomas Crawley, esq. then to the Meade family; and is now in the gift of John Wilkes, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Dunstan, stands pleasantly on a hill; it is small and low, but neat and well pewed; a small tower contains one bell.

In the chancel, upon tomb-stones on the ground, are epitaphs, for

Thomas Meade, of this parish, esq. the son of Sir John Meade. He died May 13, 1678.

Thomas, son of Thomas Windham, of Falbrigg in Norfolk, esq. who died in 1651.

Jane, wife of John Mede, esq. She died in 1714.

Margaret Pitches, eldest daughter of John Mede, esq. she died Jan 23, 1718.

Upon

Upon the floor of the church is a tomb-stone, with a plate of brass in-laid in it, having engraven thereupon the effigy of a man, and that of a woman; in the man's mouth is a Latin label, signifying, *Jesus, thou son of God, have mercy upon me*; and in the woman's, another Latin label, signifying, *St. Mary, pray for us*.

Below the effigies is an inscription, purporting, that

Here lie William Lucas and Catharine his wife, on whose souls God have mercy. Amen.

The effigies of four men and four women in posture of devotion are underneath.

Here is likewise an epitaph for

John Mede, esq. of this parish, who died June 24, 1715.

### WENDEN LOUGHTS RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Felton, M. A.

John Wilkes, esq.

1740.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE,

TENTHS,

£ 45 0 0

£ 0 19 1

### LITTLEBURY.

**T**HIS parish adjoins to the east side of the one last described, to the south of that of Stretball, and to the north of that of Walden; being distant

tant from that town about a mile and a half; it lies on the left hand side of the road going from Walden to Chesterford, &c. The village stands upon the declivity of a hill, and hath in it more houses than many of the neighbouring ones; they in general make but a mean appearance, and for the greatest part are thatched. Here is not any manufacture carried on, husbandry and spinning being the chief employ of the inhabitants; the river Cam serves as a boundary to this parish in some places; over which river is a good corn-mill. The name of this place some derived from two Saxon words signifying *Little Town*; others imagine the latter part of the name to arise from Brugh or Boroughs, from the Roman fortrefs here on Ring-hill\*, one of their *æstiva*, which Dr. Salmon imagines to be the Cononium of Antoninus, it corresponding well with other places of the itinerary. In speaking of this place, he further says, 'I would not take too great liberty in changing names, but if this was anciently written *Camomium*, of which I have no proof, it might be so called from the river CAM, the passage of which here may have been Westholtsford. The fortified ground upon the apex of the hill encompassed with a deep ditch, seems to contain between twenty-five and thirty acres. The building upon it has been anciently a pleasure house, whence this neighbouring vale is in view.

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\* See under Great Chesterford.

There

' There are yet to be seen some remains about the  
 ' mill, and in the orchard of an inn, in Littlebury,  
 ' foundations and subterraneous caverns very like  
 ' Roman work. This place, and Chesterford, which  
 ' was unquestionably Roman, were proper settlements  
 ' under the protection of the *æstiva* of Ring-hill  
 ' and Hogmagog. And whatsoever has been asserted  
 ' to the contrary, there is good reason to believe,  
 ' that where there was a camp on an eminence, and  
 ' a walled tour near it, the camp was first fortified  
 ' before the town was built; for instance, the Roman  
 ' city generally called *Ariconium* in Herefordshire,  
 ' stands under the unpregnable fortrefs of Creden-  
 ' hall-hill, whither the inhabitants, upon any alarm,  
 ' could retreat. The city stood on a flat, secured  
 ' only by it's neighbourhood to the camp: A city  
 ' may be built any where, but nature and situation  
 ' must be consulted for a place of defence. This  
 ' stands upon what I presume was Ermine-street.'

Since the time of the doctor's writing, we have not  
 had any evidence, either to confute or confirm his or  
 Dr. Stukeley's opinion of this place and Chesterford;  
 we therefore, (as under Chesterford,) have stated the  
 opinion and observation of these judicious antiquarians,  
 leaving the curious reader to his own further enquiry  
 and determination.

From the beginning of the ninth century Little-  
 bury belonged to a religious house in the Isle of Ely,  
 inhabited by eight priests with their wives and chil-  
 dren.



dren\*. Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, having purchased the isle of Ely of Edgar in 970, turned out the eight priests and their families, and put in an abbot and monks. Leoffine, the fifth abbot, with the consent of king Cnute, let out the farms of the monastery, on condition they should find the house maintenance all the year; Littlebury was to find the house two weeks provision. It belonged to the monastery at the time of the general survey, and continued in it till its dissolution in 1539. There are in this parish three manors; namely, that of Littlebury, Beurdeaux, and Catmere-hall.

The manor of LITTLEBURY remained in the cathedral church and minster of Ely, and in the monks that officiated in it, till the dissolution of the monasteries, when it fell to the crown, and remained there till the year 1600, when queen Elizabeth gave it, together with the manor of Hadstock, to Thomas Sutton, esq. the munificent founder of the charter-house. By his will, dated in December 1611, he bequeathed these two manors to the right hon. Thomas earl of Suffolk, upon condition that he paid 10,000*l.* within one year after his decease; if not, he gave them to his executors and their heirs for ever. Thomas, earl of Suffolk, died possessed of this manor,

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\* Though the popes had been for sometime endeavouring to establish every where, the celibacy of the clergy, yet they had not been able to introduce it effectually into England till king Edgar's time, when Dunstan, archbishop of Canterbury, and Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, so wrought upon that superstitious prince as to have that unnatural doctrine enforced, and settled by the public authority of a council. Vide Spelman; and Wilkin's, edit Concilior.

in 1626, which passed to his posterity. Upon the partition of the estate of that noble family, this manor, with appertenances, was allotted to the right hon. the earl of Bristol.\*

The manor of BOURDEAUX does not occur in records till the year 1541, when king Henry VIII. granted to the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of the Holy Trinity of Ely and their successors for ever, in pure and perpetual alms, the manor of Bourdeaux, and a portion of tythes in Littlebury in Essex, among many other estates in this and other counties; in the dean and chapter of the same cathedral the estates continue.

The manor of CATMERE-HALL, had a mansion about two miles west from the church, which is now demolished; but the double moat, that encompassed it, is still remaining. This manor belonged likewise to Ely Minster, and was holden of the bishop of Ely by the noble family of Nevill, of Raby. It fell to the crown at the time the above-mentioned manor did, and in 1543 was granted, together with the rectory and some other estates by king Henry VIII. to John Gate, esq. who the same year alienated this manor to William Bradbury, whose family, after enjoying it for several generations, sold it to one of the noble family of Suffolk; and from them it hath passed to the right hon. the earl of Bristol.

At a place called Chapel Green, about two miles or more from the church, formerly stood a chapel.

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\* See under Walden.

This chapel green hath on it a few houses, and is about half a mile from Littlebury-green; which last, in old deeds, is sometimes called Stretley-green, and stands above a mile west-south-west of the church.

The Roman camp in this parish, having about thirteen acres inclosed with a deep trench, and a brick tower upon it, hath already been mentioned under *Chesterford* in vol. ii.

A common of near thirty acres, called the broom, lies by the side of the How-wood.

In this parish lived the ingenious Henry Winstanley, who built the first light-house upon the eddy-stone near Plymouth, and was killed by the fall of it in the great wind 27 November, 1703: the house wherein he lived, of his own building, adjoins the south side of the church-yard of this parish, and has a peculiarity in it's structure.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

In the street, near the church, stands an almshouse, without endowment. Over it there is a very good room, which is a free-school, endowed with twenty-four pounds a year, from lands and tenements in this town. The master hath also a good house. Who the founder was of this charity, is not, for certain, known; but is supposed to be Thomas Sutton, esq. founder of the charter-house.

In 1584 Henry Harvey, LL. D. gave ten pounds yearly to the poor of Stortford, and six pounds yearly to the church-wardens of that parish and Littlebury, to be equally divided between the poor of both towns,  
payable

payable by the master and fellows of Trinity-hall in Cambridge.

Clerk's gift of 20s. yearly to the poor out of a farm near Littlebury-green, which is distributed in money to the poor.

The interest of fifty pounds, being the remaining part of 100l. given by Thomas Sutton, esq.

Three pounds yearly, given by Dr. Covell, late rector of this parish.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The rectory, appendant to the manor of Bourdeaux, is in the gift of the bishop of Ely; and a sinecure. The vicarage is in the gift of the rector.

The vicarage was augmented by bishop Wren with 30l. pound a year, payable out of the appropriate tythes.

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, (as that of Ely was,) hath a north and south ayse, which, with the middle pace, are leaded: the chancel is of one pace only, tiled. At the west end is a square tower, containing five bells; and on the top of the tower is a lanthorn, containing the clock bell.

Upon the north side the chancel is an inscription on a brass plate inlaid in a stone on the ground, as follows:

Here lyeth the body of Jane the wyfe of Henrye Bradburye, gent. daughter of one Eyles Poulton of Dalsboroughe in the countie of Northampton, gent. whoe in her lyfe not onely lyved vertuouslye, but finished her daies with faith in Christ. She died in August, 1578.

In

In the chancel upon the ground, are epitaphs for

Thomas Bird of Littlebury, gent. who died Sept. 5, 1630.

William Byrd late of London Dr. of laws, he died 28 Nov. 1639.

Thomas Byrd of Littlebury, gen. who died 5 of Sept. 1640.

Ann Byrd, late the wife of Thomas Byrd: she was buried the 29th of October, 1624.

John Wale, who died Feb. 13, 1631.

Mary, wife of the above-named John Wale: she died April 30, 1735.

Mary, daughter of the above-mentioned John and Mary Wale, who died Jan. 23, 1759.

Francis Westhorpe, gent. who died Feb. 24, 1748.

William Trufllove, who died March 24, 1760.

In the south ayse, is the following inscription:

Hic jacet Jacobus Edwards quondam Satelles de Hadstock et Hadham tunc hujus villæ, qui omni morum probitate hoc munus gessit et candidissimo favore domini Redman Eliensis episcopi, qui hoc sumptus est officio tandem fatali peste pie expirans vii calendæ Octobris anno gra. 1522.

In English thus:

Here lies James Edwards, formerly of Hadstock and Hadham, then of this village, who, in this office, gave proofs of the greatest integrity, and gained the esteem of Redman bishop of Ely:—a fatal plague took him from this office and put an end to his pious life on the 25th Sept. in the year 1522.

As the word *Satelles* seems to be used here in a sense entirely different from that in which the classical writers use it, we cannot be surprised that any one should be at a loss how to translate it. Various are the opinions of the learned concerning it, but they amount only to mere conjecture. Those, however,

of



of the late learned antiquarian Mr. Strype and the late dean (Perry) of Litchfield, seem most satisfactory; we shall therefore beg leave to present the reader with them. Mr. Strype thus expresses himself.

‘ I first thought this person might have been a  
 ‘ guard, or some honourable attendant, or serjeant  
 ‘ to the bishop, but then the words that follow, viz.  
 ‘ de Hadstock et Hadham tunc hujus villa, create a  
 ‘ difficulty. But the word seems to suit well to a  
 ‘ *steward*, if one had authority so to translate it.  
 ‘ This deceased is said to be formerly *Satelles* de  
 ‘ Hadstock et Hadham, in which last mentioned  
 ‘ place the bishops of London had a seat and manor,  
 ‘ and so he might first have been his steward of  
 ‘ Hadham, as afterwards he might be steward to the  
 ‘ bishop of Ely for the village of Littlebury, tunc  
 ‘ hujus villa, as the inscription runs. And the ac-  
 ‘ count that it gives of his honest behaviour in that  
 ‘ office (*omni morum probitate hoc munus gessit*)  
 ‘ agrees well with the office of a steward. But I ac-  
 ‘ knowledge I am not satisfied with this signification  
 ‘ of the word, though I cannot produce a better.”

—Thus much Mr. Strype. — As to the dean of Litchfield’s opinion it runs, in a letter to his friend, thus:  
 ‘ I fancy the engraver was mistaken in putting the  
 ‘ word *satelles* for *seneschallus*, or, unless you viewed  
 ‘ the word exactly, it may be wrote by abbreviation,  
 ‘ *senallus* for *seneschallus*, which sense will agree with  
 ‘ what follows as implying a great trust, viz. *omni*  
 ‘ *morum probitate*, &c. but as for the word *satelles*,

‘ taken in a military sense, I never heard of any such  
 ‘ office under the bishops of Ely ; and if taken in a  
 ‘ civil sense for bailiff or rent-gatherer, the meaning  
 ‘ of the word is new and altogether forced ; besides  
 ‘ the meanness of the employment ill agrees with the  
 ‘ following character, viz. candidissimo favore, &c.’

In the middle pace of the church are three ancient  
 tomb-stones, with effigies thereon, engraved in brass  
 plates ; but the inscriptions were torn off in the tu-  
 multuous days of Cromwell.

In the church-yard the present vicar has erected a  
 kind of obelisk monument, with an inscription in  
 memory of his late father.

### LITTLEBURY RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Richard Farman, M. A.

Bishop of Ely.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 26 13 4

£. 2 13 4

### LITTLEBURY VICARAGE.

William Gretton, M. A.

The Rectors.

1761.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£. 47 0 0

£. 1 2 0½

Strathall,

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## S T R E T H A L L

**I**S the adjoining parish to Littlebury upon its north side; being distant from Walden about four, and from Stortford thirteen miles; in length it is about two computed miles; and in breadth not quite one: the soil is variable; the roads hereabouts pleasant; the village small, and the inhabitants supported by husbandry or spinning. ‘ This village lying upon the Ermin-street from Chichester through London to Yarmouth is probably named from the Saxon *Stræte*, by which that people understood a Roman military way, as appears from many instances in this island. The derivation of *Ermin* is not hard to come at; *hepe*, with the Saxons, signifying an army, and *hepeman* a *soldier*; it is but another word for *military*. As all the Roman ways were military, it may be asked why this particular one should go by the general name. After the conquest there were four principal roads of England, to the travellers upon which privilege was granted. No man could be molested as he passed; the reason was to prevent the English getting together, and forming designs against their new lord; with which view the *Couvre-feu-bell* was also rung. These were styled by the Normans the *Four Chemini Majores*. Such they found them, with these Saxon names,

‘ *Watling-street*, *Ikening*, *Fosse*, and *Ermin*. The  
 ‘ *Watling* is allowed to have led from the coast of  
 ‘ Kent through London into the north, though there  
 ‘ are some disputes in tracing it.

‘ The *Fosse* is also admitted, and for many miles  
 ‘ the remains of it are visible through Lincolnshire,  
 ‘ Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Somersetshire, and,  
 ‘ without much difficulty, it may be traced from  
 ‘ Seaton in Dorsetshire to Salfleet in Lincolnshire.

‘ The *Ikening* is admitted to pass through Cam-  
 ‘ bridgehire, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Buck-  
 ‘ inghamshire, and on westward. It is generally  
 ‘ said to have had its name from the British  
 ‘ *Iken Cornu*. And though it cannot be followed  
 ‘ with that certainty as some of the rest, there is  
 ‘ good reason to believe it reached from sea to sea,  
 ‘ from Harwich to the land’s end of Cornwall. It is  
 ‘ indeed said that the Romans went no further than  
 ‘ Exeter. But shall we suppose that Cornwall, the  
 ‘ product of which the Phenicians were acquainted  
 ‘ with, and which was the most valuable of any ex-  
 ‘ ported from Britain, should be neglected by the  
 ‘ Romans ?

‘ There are three places in *Antonine’s Itinerary* which  
 ‘ our antiquarians have not yet fixed with any appear-  
 ‘ ance of truth. These, with their distances, may  
 ‘ very well be reckoned on the *Ikening street*, termi-  
 ‘ nating in Cornwall ; and we have the *Iken* or *Cornu*  
 ‘ at least as fairly derived as from the *Iceni*, if the  
 ‘ street had ever come there.

‘ The

' The Saxons having particular names for the other  
 ' three, knew this fourth well enough by the general  
 ' one of *military*. It must be confessed there are few  
 ' *vestigia* of this name remaining. If we compare it  
 ' with the *Fosse*, leading strait from Chichester (*Reg-*  
 ' *num*) to *Yarmouth*, it runs exactly parallel to the  
 ' *Fosse*, as here described. The name of *Stane-street*  
 ' remains six miles beyond Darking in Surry, and  
 ' upon it is a notorious Roman fortrefs, trebly  
 ' ditched. We have here *Stratchale* upon the line  
 ' from Chichester, and upon this street a Roman  
 ' fortrefs in the neighbouring parish of Littlebury.  
 ' And for further evidence we may take it in the  
 ' name of *Hertsford*, where the street runs, written  
 ' anciently *Hereford*, *Vadum Militare*. One hundred  
 ' that it passes through in that county is called  
 ' *Edwin-street*, which may have been corrupted from  
 ' *Ermin-street*. And to pass by other places in this  
 ' street, for which the evidence is not so clear, it leads  
 ' to *Icklingham* in Suffolk, the *Cambretonium*, (as I  
 ' presume) of the Itinerary. The ancient name of  
 ' that stream on which it stood I suppose to have been  
 ' Breton, and the mills upon it are still called Barton-  
 ' mills. The great quantity of coins found there-  
 ' abouts, the remains of fortifications, and tessellated  
 ' pavements, are convincing proofs; though amongst  
 ' the curious pursuers of antiquities I have not found  
 ' one that has mentioned Icklingham. For *Caeſter*,  
 ' upon Wenfare in the line to *Burgh*, or *Yarmouth*,  
 ' I need plead no more than universal allowance.\*

\* See Dr. Salmon's Hist. of this county, fol. 132, &c.



STRETHALL was reckoned a hamlet, or bere-wic, belonging to Littlebury, both before and at the time of the general survey; and *Littlebury-green*, by which the street leads to the Roman camp, is in old deeds called *Stretly-green*. Both Strethall and Littlebury belonged to the monastery of Ely, called the lands of St. Ethelreda, or Audrey. It was holden at the time of the Conqueror's survey by two freemen, William and Elwin, and afterwards by Hugh de Berners. At that time and since, here was but one manor, the mansion of which adjoins the church-yard: from the hall gate is commanded a most extensive prospect, which is computed to be upwards of thirty miles; it comprehends Cambridge, Swaffham, Ely, and all that neighbourhood. The different families upon record who have held and possessed this estate are those of Tibetott, Bayley, Peche, Broke, Kyghley, Bredwardyn, Cavendish, Crawley, Newport, and Carr; in which last family it remains, being possessed by Mrs. Carr, relict of Robert Carr, of Illeworth in Middlesex, esq.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The rectory has all along been appendent to the manor.

In 1515 Henry Woodstock, citizen of London, gave to it a quit-rent of 5l. 6s. 8d. payable out of three tenements, two in Bucklers-bury, the other in Budge-row. In 1723 it was augmented by the donation of 200l. from the late late Edward Colston and

Robert

Robert Carr, of this parish, esqrs. to which were added 200l. of queen Ann's bounty.

The church (dedicated to the Virgin Mary) and chancel are of stone, tiled, of one pace only, and but mean in appearance; a steeple in very bad condition, contains two bells.

In the chancel, over the monument in the north wall, in a plate of brass is this inscription:

Pray for the soules of John Gardyner, gentelman heir buried sometime lord of this manur and patron of this churche and of Johane sometime his wife daughter of Henry Wodecock, of London, gentleman, and Henry their son, which John lyeth buried in the church of Saint Mary Wolnoth Lombard-street, London, and the said Henry their son lieth buried in the churche of Sevenok in Kent, and the sayd John died at this manner at midnight between the xxxth day and the xxxist day of August, in the year of our lord god 1508, to all which souls Jesu be mercifull Amen.

In the chancel upon the ground is a plate of brass loose: it was stolen about nine or ten years ago by a person who sold it to a tradesman at Walden, as old brass, but the present worthy rector making a diligent enquiry after both the plate and the robber, discovered the former at a tradesman's shop at Walden, and ordered it to be carried to the place from whence it was taken: the same gentleman, when he came to examine the plate more minutely, to his great surprise found upon each side of it an inscription: the side that appeared uppermost for several years, before it was stolen, had this inscription, which Dr. Salmon recorded when he visited this church in quest of information.

Here

Here lieth maister Thomas Abbot, late pson here whiche deceased 8 October, 1539. On whos soule Jesu have mercy.

How this inscription came to be uppermost cannot be devised; for over the inscription is the effigy of a woman; and yet, according to Newcourt and other authorities Mr. Thomas Abbott was rector of this church at the time above recited: the inscription discovered to be on the reverse of that for Mr. Abbott, corresponds with the effigy, and, as well as we could make it out, is as follows:

Orate Margaretam Sidey modo vermibus escam.  
Quondam formosam mulierem religiosam.  
Hic contemplantes, quales eritis memorantes.  
Posuite folio deum; cœlis jacet mihi mansio.

In English thus:

Pray for Margaret Sidey, now the food for worms, formerly a beautiful and religious woman. Ye who behold this, think what ye shall be. God sits upon his throne. My abode is in heaven.

In the church upon the ground is an inscription in memory of

Nehemiah Perry, who died the 21st day of October, 1760, and of Ann his wife who died the 14th day of September, 1751.

# STRETHALL RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

William Hopkins, M. A.

1743.

PATRONESS.

Mrs. Carr.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£ 40 0 0

TENTHS.

£ 1 6 0

Elmdon.

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## E L M D O N.

**I**S next to Heydon, upon the borders of Cambridge-shire, and joins to Strethall parish upon it's west side: it is distant from Walden about five, from Stortford fourteen miles; and in circumference is reckoned to be about nine: the lands here being in some places very high and in others quite low, varies the nature of the soil greatly: the vill, which is small, stands upon the declivity of two hills: the inhabitants are supported by husbandry and spinning. The name of Elmdon signifies Elm-hill, which name was given to this place on account of the plenty of elms growing hereabouts. At the time of the general survey the greatest part of this parish was holden by Eustace earl of Bologne, and his under-tenant Roger de Sumers; and hence it became part of the honor of Bologne. The manors, mentioned in records as lying within this parish are in number six; namely, those of Elmdon, Dagworth, Mounteneys, Pigots, Lee-bury, and Cocksales, which has some lands here and more in Arkesden. But for several years past courts have been disused except in those of Elmdon and Lee-bury; the first of which has absorbed the distinctions of Dagworths, Mounteneys, and Pigots, taken up from different owners.

The manor of ELMDON, or ELMDON-BURY is the chief manor, and has a good mansion within four hundred yards of the church. The different families who are recorded to have owned this manor and it's appertenances, are those of Dageworth, Mounteney, Monchenfi, Segrove, Furnivall, Neville, Knivet, Langley, Marshal, Cutts, and Mead; from which family they have passed to John Wilkes, esq. in like manner as that of Wendon-Loughts, and some others.

LEEBURY, the other capital manor in this parish, has a mansion distant a little more than a mile south-east from the church, by the side of the road leading from this parish to Littlebury-green. This manor at the time of the survey belonged likewise to Eustace earl of Bologne. The families recorded to have possessed it since are those of Philip, of Baldock; Belknap, Greene, Meade, Hanchet, and Fuller; and it is now in — Forbes, esq. of Crifthall-Grange.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

In 1559 Thomas Crawley, esq. founded a school here, and endowed it with fourteen pounds per annum, chargeable upon the impropriate tythes, and all his other estates in Elmdon. The master is to be a priest, and to teach gratis, grammar and good manners to the children of the several parishes in Essex and Hertfordshire particularly specified in his deed of gift: he is to be chosen from time to time by the impropriator and the vicar of Elmdon, the parsons  
of



of the churches of Heydon, Wendon-Loughts, and the vicar of Christhall, or any three of them.

The church-wardens of this parish receive annually at Easter twenty shillings from the manor of Christhall, being part of the gift of Mrs. Martin. See under the parish of Christhall.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given by Robert de Lucy to the church of Thomas the Martyr, of Westwood, in Liefnes, in Kent, and to the canons serving God there, shortly after the foundation of that monastery by Richard de Lucy, chief justice of England. The rectory, or great tythes, were appropriated to that priory in 1424, and a vicarage ordained and endowed, of which the convent continued patrons till their suppression in 1525, when king Henry VIII. granted it, amongst others, to Cardinal Wolsey, to found and endow his college at Oxford and Ipswich. Upon his premunire it became forfeited to the crown, and the rectory and advowson were given by the same monarch to the convent of Sheen in Surrey. They leased it out for a term to Thomas Crawley, esq. at the expiration of which lease king Edward VI. granted it to Thomas Crawley, esq. again. It was in Thomas Meade, serjeant at law, in 1588: the next possessor of it upon record is the family of Bendish; one of whom sold it to Mr. Nicholas Penning, merchant, who passed it to John Hanchet, esq. and Nathaniel Wilkes, esq. in 1739, purchased it of Richard Cham-

berlain, esq. It is now in John Wilkes, of Wendon-Loughts, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, stands upon a rising ground. Both church and chancel have two ayssles, which are leaded, except the north ayssle or chapel of the chancel. A tower at the west-end contains four bells; on the tower is a small spire.

In the chancel, against the north wall, is a very ancient monument near nine feet high, and six feet long; over the tomb is an arch, decorated with various ornaments in carving, and the arms of the person to whose memory it is erected: the inscription it bears is as follows:

*Thomæ Meade armigero secundo justiciario de banco, hic humato, fidelissima sua conjux Johanna posuit. Obiit Maii 1585.*

To Thomas Meade esquire, second justice of the king's bench here buried, his most faithful wife Joan erected this. He died May 1585.

On an old monument, much decayed, in the south chancel or chapel, is this inscription in old English characters:

*Iustarum memoriz in manu Dei sunt; non tangent eos  
tormentum melitiz.*

*Quem premit iste lapis Crawleum, quis fuit ille,  
Armiger in bello, pace togatus erat,  
Ux vixit sancte vitæ monumenta reliquit  
Multa, quid & multis (tumba) referre potes,  
Dilexit patriam, patrii quis testis amoris,  
Hæc schola permagnis sumptibus orta suis,  
Vera precor memoras verissimo pro quibus ecce  
Impressum æterno marmore nomen habet.*

In English thus :

The memory of the just is in the hand of God ; malice shall never torment them.

The name of him whom this stone covers was Crawley,  
in war he bore arms ; in peace he was a lawyer :  
he left many monuments of his holy life ; and,  
what even his tomb can relate,

he loved his country :

That he did so this school,  
which was built at his very great expence,  
is a witness.

In memory of these things,  
behold ! his name is inscribed on everlasting marble.

On another plate in the same stone :

O man that dost beholde, to soone closyd in moulde  
Why dost thou not despise this vayne mortal gyle  
For why whiche a tomb shall evy man be cum

Kynges and princes stoute, all powrs the world about  
Shall passe without delay, when deth them call away

Yf thou desire full fayne salvation to obtayne  
Se that thou follow then, the lyff of all god men

Refusing thereby still, the example of all yll  
How rich be they certaine, that hevenlye kingdom gayne,  
No towng can well expresse thos joyes that be endless.

In a third plate

Thomas Crawley, esquier, deceased the xxx daye of September,  
anno 1559.

Here are besides the above a plate, with the effigies  
of four boys ; another with those of eight girls, and  
one with Mr. Crawley's arms.

Here

## 86 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

Here were, besides these mentioned, various other plates, but they have been stolen away.

In the north chapel or chancel are epitaphs in memory of William, Samuel and Mary, children of William and Ann Hopkins, of this parish. And of Elizabeth Hopkins, who died in 1765. William dyed in 1724—the dates of the other two are obliterated.

### ELMDON VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Hopkins, M. A.

John Wilkes, Esq.

1719.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 19 0 0

£. 1 18 0

## H E Y D O N.

**T**HIS parish adjoins the one last treated of upon its north-west side, and is the north-west corner of this county, bordering upon the counties of Hertford and Cambridge: it is distant from Saffron Walden about seven miles, and is computed in length to be one and a half, and in breadth not more than three-quarters of a mile: it's situation is delightful, and the soil light; the village is small, and the

the inhabitants supported by husbandry and spinning.

HEYDON-BURY is the chief manor here, the mansion house of which is a fine old building, a little way north-west of the church : it commands a most extensive prospect, insomuch that Ely minster, (which is computed to be near thirty miles off) may be seen out of the cellar-windows. This manor, for many years hath had the honor of being holden by Grand Serjeancy ; that is, by the lords of it serving, or waiting at the coronation of the kings of England, with a bason and towel, to wash the king's hands before dinner, and to have for their fee the bason, ewer, and towel. Anciently this manor was in two moieties, and in two lords, one of whom held a bason, the other a towel, for the king to wash his hands. The Picot family seem to have had this estate from the reign of king Henry I. to that of Edward I. since when the families through which it hath passed are those of Senevill, Segrove, de Lisse, Wiltshire, Asplond, and Ayleworth ; next to whom, upon record, is Sir Stephen Soame, knt. citizen and grocer of London, and lord mayor in 1598. His successor herein was his second son Stephen, sheriff for this county in the year 1621 : at his death, his son Sir Peter Soame was his successor, who at the coronation of king James II. put in his claim to hold the bason and ewer, for one moiety of the manor of Haydon, and for the other moiety to hold the towel, when the king washed his hands before dinner, which his predecessors,



deceffors, tenants of the faid manor, had done from time immemorial: and petitioned to be admitted to perform thofe fervices either in perfon or by a convenient deputy; receiving all the fees, profits and emoluments to the faid fervice belonging. The commiffioners of claims allowed that part of holding the towel, but referred the appointing a deputy to the king's good pleasure; who chofe Antony, earl of Kent, to perform the office in right of the faid Peter; but the reft of the claim was not allowed. Sir Peter Soame was fucceeded by his fon Sir Peter; from whom this eftate paffed to his fon of the fame name, whole fon Sir Peter Soame, bart. is the prefent owner and occupier. The claim at the coronation of king George II. in 1727, was allowed as to the towel only.

HEYDON-GRANGE is about two miles north from the church, upon the borders of Cambridgefhire.

In the ftreet over-againft the church, is a building, like a market-houfe: the roof is fupported by ftone pillars, in an uncommon manner: it appears to be very ancient; but we have not any hiftory or tradition to inform us at what time it was built, or for what ufe it was intended.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

A charity fchool, near the church, for the education of twenty children, was founded by Dr. Davies, rector of this parifh. It was endowed with an annuity

cf

of 10l. for ever; but which by some means has become reduced to four pounds twelve shillings.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory formerly was in the gift of the abbot and convent of Walden, to whom it had been given by Thomas Picot; into whose family it reverted again about the reign of king Edward I. since when it hath always been appendant to the manor.

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is pleasantly situated, and consists of a middle pace and two ayfles, leaded: the chancel is of one pace, and hath upon it's north side a chapel, (which is kept locked up,) the burial place of the Soame family. The church and chancel are embattled on the outside, and neat in the inside: at the west-end is the steeple, wherein are five bells.

Within the communion rails, upon the ground, is a black marble tomb-stone, upon which is an inscription for

John, son of Sir Stephen Soame, knt. He died March 14 1638.

In the chancel is an epitaph for

Thomas, the son of Thomas and Ann Thackeray who died in 1734.

Hugh, son of the Hon. and Rev. Dr. Boscawen, who died 1756.

In the church and chancel are several old tomb-stones with effigies in brass thereon, but not a line to inform the curious enquirer whose relicts they cover.

90 UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

HEYDON RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Philip Hatton, M. A.

Sir Peter Soame, Bart.

1761.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 18 0 0

£. 1 16 0

CHRISTHALL.

**T**HIS parish, erroneously called *Crisshall*, adjoins to the south side of Heydon; is six miles from Walden, and fourteen from Stortford; measuring in length about five; in breadth, in some places about a mile, in others a mile and a half: its situation is rather high, and the lands poor; husbandry and spinning is the chief employment of the inhabitants. At the time of the general survey the lands here were holden by Eustace earl of Bologne, and Ingelric; at which time, and ever since, have been here the following manors; namely, Christhall-bury, Cheswick-hall, and Christhall-grange.

The mansion to the first mentioned manor stands about two furlongs south from the church. Maud, grand-daughter and heiress of Eustace earl of Bologne, carried this manor, amongst several others, to her husband king Stephen, who gave it to his natural son William, and he granted it to Richard de Lucy; since when it hath passed through the families of Rivers, Pinkney, Segrave, de la Pole, Sutton; and from them

them to Ralph, Thomas, William, Edmund, Humphry, and Henry, earls of Stafford; it afterwards came to Sir John Harpenham, who passed it to Thomas Brook: George Brook lord Cobham and Ann his lady passed it to Thomas Crawley, jun. esq. in the year 1544. We find it, since then, in the Penruddock family, one of whom in 1649 sold it to John James, esq. (knighted in 1655) who built Christhall-hall. On the north-east corner of Christhall park is an earth work of a circular form, with a ditch five or six feet deep, and mounts raised at four places near the edge. This park was afterwards a wood. Sir John James died in 1676, and was buried in the chancel of this church, with an epitaph\*. Being unmarried, he left this estate to his nephew Mr. James Cane, who in 1680 was created a baronet, and took the surname of Cane James. In his family it continued for some time, and passed therefrom to that of Brand, where it continues, being the property of Thomas Brand, of the Hyde, near Ingatestone.

The manor of CHESWIC-HALL, otherwise *Flanders*, has a mansion on a hill about half a mile south from the church, surrounded by a moat. This manor, at the time of the Conqueror's survey, belonged to Robert de Todenei, builder of Belvoir-castle in Lincolnshire. The families upon record which at different time possessed this estate are those of Keleshal, Helion, Wentworth, Nicholls, Bradbury,

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\* See the epitaphs in this parish.

Rowley, and Wilkes ; in which last family it remains, being the property of John Wilkes, of Wendon Loughts, esq.

The manor of CRESHALL-GRANGE hath a good mansion-house in a bottom, about two miles north from the church, upon the edge of Cambridge-shire. This estate before the dissolution of monasteries, &c. belonged to Tiltey-abbey in this county ; and upon it's coming into the hands of king Henry VIII. he granted it to Edward Elrington and Humphrey Metcalf, who in 1546 alienated it to Edward Meade, esq. James Smith, of Upton, esq. sold it to John Hanchet, of Heydon, esq. whose family enjoyed it for several generations, and it is now in — Forbes, esq. the occupier.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Mrs. Lettice Martin, of this parish, widow, in 1533, vested in trustees two closes of meadow and arable land, called Chalk-meadow and Shaw-croft ; nine acres and three roods in the common fields, a close of arable and pasture in Crawley-end, containing five acres ; twenty acres of arable lands in the common fields ; and forty-three acres in the common fields, all lying in this parish, and the last partly in Heydon ; for the following uses : that those trustees should pay yearly to the church-wardens of Christhall on Palm Sunday, 9l. 13s. 4d. to be distributed amongst the poor parishioners of thirty-three towns and parishes in the following proportions : to Christhall, Walden, and Wendon 20s. each : to Newport, and Elmdon 13s. 4d. each ; to Audeley-end, Great Chef-terford,



terford, and Clavering, 6s. 8d. each; to Littlebury 5s. to Heydon, Chishall, Arkesdon, Wendon-Loughts, Clavering, Langley, and Berden, 3s. 4d. each; and to Little Chesterford 1s. 8d. To the church-wardens of Christhall for their trouble, 10s. The profits of the fall of the trees growing on the premises to be distributed to the poor of Christhall and Wendon. The trustees to keep 20s. in their hands to make a new feoffment of eight inhabitants of Christhall when the feoffees are reduced to four.—The rest of the parishes entitled to this benefaction are in Cambridgeshire.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The church was of old appropriated to Westminster abbey, and a vicarage here ordained and endowed: both church and parish were for time immemorial of their peculiar jurisdiction, and the vicarage in their collation, all exempt from the bishop of this diocese. So they continued whilst the church of Westminster was either monastical or episcopal. But upon the dissolution of that new-erected bishopric, king Edward VI. granted the jurisdiction of this place, with several other exempts within the bounds of this diocese, as to matters ecclesiastical, to Nicholas Ridley, bishop of London, and his successors for ever. In 1553 queen Mary granted the patronage and advowson of this vicarage to the bishop of London, and it hath continued in the gift of the bishops of London ever since. The rectory, or great tythes, were granted by queen Elizabeth, in 1558, to the dean and chapter of

of Westminster, who still are proprietors of the same. In 1720 the vicarage was augmented by bishop Robinson with 200*l.* to which was added the like sum of queen Ann's bounty.

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, consists of a middle pace and two ayshes: the chancel is of one pace only: the whole is leaded. At the west end is a square stone tower, containing four bells: on the tower is a neat spire, leaded: the whole is embattled.

In the chancel against the south wall is a neat monument supported by trusses: upon two Corinthian pillars is a neat pediment; and upon a table of black marble the following inscription:

Juxta hoc marmor quiescit  
 Beatam manens resurrectionem  
 JOHANNES JAMES eques auratus  
 Ex antiquo cognominis familiæ in agro  
 Contiano Stemmate Oriundus,  
 Deo opt. max. Servum devotum, regi  
 (Vel in adversis) subditum integerrimum,  
 Consanguineis beneficentissimum, amicis  
 Amicissimum, omnibus benignum,  
 Gravem et Justi tenacissimum, in  
 Expediendis negotiis eximie prudentiæ,  
 Et sedulitatis se virum præbuit.  
 Exiit mortalitatem 17 die Feb. An. Dni.  
 1676, ætatis suæ 72mo.

Cane James (quem hereditem ex esse reliquit) in charissimi Avunculi memorium (gratitudini ergo) monumentum hoc extare voluit.

In English thus:

Near this marble rests,  
 waiting for a happy resurrection,

Sit

Sir JOHN JAMES, knight,  
who descended from an ancient family  
of his name, in the county of Kent:

He was,  
to his God, a devout servant;  
to his king  
(even when in adversity)  
a truly faithful subject;  
to his relations very beneficent;  
to his friends very friendly;  
to all men courteous,  
steady and strictly just;  
and in dispatching business  
he shewed himself  
a man of singular prudence and dexterity.  
He divested himself of mortality  
on the 17th day of Feb.  
in the year of our Lord 1676,  
of his age 72.

Cane James, (whom he left heir of his whole estate) in memory  
of his beloved uncle, (and as a testimony of his own gratitude)  
caused this monument to be erected.

Against the north wall, upon a plain marble mon-  
ument is this:

Cane James Baronetto & Annæ uxori  
filius parentibus posuit

1739.

In English:

To the memory of Cane James and Ann his wife:  
their son caused this monument to be erected,

1739.

In the south ayfle of the church are some remains  
of two very ancient monuments: but no inscription  
is

visible: however, tradition informs us, that one of them was intended to perpetuate the memory of Mrs. Martin; (the generous donor of the charity above recited) and upon the tomb wherein we are told she is interred, is placed the effigy of a woman, engraven in brass.

Against a pillar of the south ayfle of the church is this inscription:

Here, within this pew, lieth the body of Elizabeth Banks, late wife of the Rev. Mr. Banks, vicar of this parish, who died Sept. 2, 1754, aged 41 years.

Beauty and sense in vain to these you trust,  
Both sense and beauty must be laid in dust.

### CHRISTHALL VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

John Banks, B. A.

Bishop of London.

1749.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

YEARLY TENTHS.

£ 25 0 0

£ 1 6 0

## CHISHALL.

TWO parishes of this name lie together at the extremity of this hundred and county, bordering upon Hertfordshire; and are distinguished from each other by the appellation of Great and Little. A water course, called Cumberton, divides these  
parishes

‘parishes from Barley in Hertfordshire. Here seems  
 ‘to have been the division between Mercia and the  
 ‘kingdom of the East Saxons. By Shaftnoe bridge  
 ‘appears a bank, which probably ran through Hert-  
 ‘fordshire to Middlesex, as a mound. The memory  
 ‘of this is kept up at Cheshunt, though no bank is  
 ‘to be seen, and for many miles. The land above  
 ‘the bank in the same fields is inherited by the eldest  
 ‘brother ; that below the bank descends by Burough-  
 ‘English to the youngest. This custom is frequent  
 ‘on the east-side of the bank in Hertfordshire, not  
 ‘on the Mercian side.’ Salmon’s Hist. of Essex.  
 p. 137.

## G R E A T   C H I S H A L L

IS the largest of the two, and lies upon the north side of Christhall : from Saffron Walden it is about eight miles, and from Stortford fourteen ; in length between three and four, and in width about two : the vill is small, but most agreeably situated upon a great eminence open upon the west and north sides, from whence it commands a most delightful prospect of upwards of thirty miles : upon its south side is a wood. Husbandry and spinning are the chief employments of the inhabitants. The manors contained herein are those of Friars or Chishall Grange, and the manor of Chishall.

The first-mentioned of these manors formerly belonged to Tiltey-abbey, whence came the name : the



manſion houſe is down. Upon the general diſſolution of monaſteries, &c. king Henry VIII. granted this eſtate to Edward Elrington, eſq. of whom it was purchaſed by Thomas Crawley, eſq. It afterwards belonged to Sir Cane James, and is now in Thomas Brand, eſq. of the Hyde, near Ingateſtone.

The manor of CHISHALL has a manſion-houſe on the right-hand ſide of the road going from Chiſhall to Arkeſden. The accounts of the different owners of this eſtate are very imperfect, and not to be depended upon: we ſhall therefore only obſerve, that it was lately in the family of Goulſtone, of whom it was purchaſed by the preſent owner Thomas Brand, eſq. mentioned above.

In a farm called Oſborn's, in this pariſh, is a well ninety-two yards and a half deep.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

The rent of five acres of land is yearly diſtributed to the poor here at Chriſtmas by the churchwardens and overſeers.

Three ſhillings and four pence yearly, the gift of Mrs. Martin, is likewise diſtributed to the poor.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church, with all its appertenanceſ, liberties, &c. was given by Geoffrey de Mandeville to the monaſtery of Walden, about the year 1136. The manor, which is a rectory, was appropriated to them about  
the

the year 1239, and a vicarage ordained, the profits of which being too small, an augmentation was made to it in the year 1441. After the dissolution of the abbey king Henry VIII. granted this church to Sir Thomas Audeley, who left it to his wife Elizabeth, after whose decease it came to Thomas duke of Norfolk, who married the said lord Audeley's daughter and heir. Their son lord Howard of Walden sold it to William Cook, gent. whose family, after enjoying it for several years, sold it to Nathaniel Wilkes, esq. and it is now in John Wilkes, esq. of Wendon-Loughts.—This church has been used as a sanctuary.

The church, dedicated to St. Swithin, stands pleasantly; it consists of a middle pace and two ayles, leaded; the chancel is of one pace only, tiled. In the tower, which hath at the top of it a small spire, leaded, are five bells. The whole is embattled.

On a mural monument on the north side the chancel, is this inscription:

Near this place, under the communion-table, lieth the body of the hon. John Cook, esq. who departed this life the 27th of January, 1701. He served as high sheriff of this county of Essex by the especial appointment of king William of ever blessed memory, and commanded as colonel of the green regiment of the militia, and was also a deputy lieutenant justice of the peace and one of the quorum for the said county. Who for his integrity, love of justice, and the usefulness of his person in every station, lived beloved and died lamented. He left behind him, by his surviving lady, Jane, the daughter of col. Richard Goulstone, four sons and three daughters, who out of gratitude and honor to his dear memory, have erected this monument, though too mean and unworthy of him. His age was 67.

100 LITTLESFORD HUNDRED.

In the south ayfle of the church is an epitaph for

Samuel Harris, gentleman and brewer of London, who died in June 1668.

And one for

George Brown, gent. who died in April 1650.

GREAT CHISHALL VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Thomas Smith, B. A.  
1764.

John Wilkes, Esq.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 25 0 0

£ 1 0 0

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LITTLE CHISHALL

**A**DJOINS the last-named parish and Christhall, bordering upon Hertfordshire; it lies rather low, and is distant from Saffron Walden between eight and nine miles: the houses herein are few, whose inhabitants are employed in like manner as those of the neighbouring ones.

The manor here is called *Nether* or LOWER CHISHALL, the mansion of which is distant from the church about a rod westerly. At the time of the general survey this manor belonged to Eustace earl of Bologne, and his under tenant Wido; the latter left,

at

at his death, two daughters coheirs, on which account this estate was divided into two moieties, and possessed for several years by the respective families of these coheirs. About the year 1406 this estate seems to have been undivided, and in one hand; at which time and since the families upon record who have possessed it are those of Effeild, Hende, Wretyll, Ayliff, and Soame; and it is now the property of Sir Peter Soame, bart.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory is appendant to the manor.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is of one pace with the chancel, both tiled; the roof is very lofty. The church porch is of free stone, and high in proportion to the roof. The tower is of stone below and timber above, and contains one bell only.

### LITTLE CHISHALL RECTORY.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Thomas Kendall, M. A.

Sir Peter Soame, Bart.

1761.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 14 10 0

£. 1 9 0

The

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T H E  
H A L F H U N D R E D

O F  
C L A V E R I N G.

**T**HIS half hundred is a narrow tract of land, bounded on the east and north by the hundred of Uttlesford, and on the south and west by part of Hertfordshire. It measures in length about eight miles and a half; where broadest, about five miles and a half, but in other places not much above half a mile. Great part of it, especially toward the north, has been chiefly woody, and joins to those large coverts once belonging to Hardwyn d'Escalers, which go still by the name of Scales-Park. This half hundred takes it's name from the chief town in it, namely, Clavering, and is within the archdeaconry of Colchester: it was originally in the king's disposal, and went most generally along with the lordship of Clavering, which was held of the king in capite. At the time of the general survey Suene had it: in the  
reign



reign of king Edward I. it belonged to Robert Fitz Roger, and from him it descended to the Claverings, Nevills, &c. and at last to the family of Barrington, of King's-Hatfield.— Here are only five parishes, namely

Clavering with  
Langley,  
Berden,

Ugley.  
Manuden, and  
Fernham.

## CLAVERING.

**T**HIS is the largest and chief parish in this half hundred. It is bounded on the east side by Arkesdon, Wickham Bonhunt, and part of Rickling; on the south by Berden; on the west by part of Hertfordshire, and on the north by Little Chishall: from Walden it is distant about six, and from Stortford eight miles: in length it measures upwards of four, and in breadth about three miles: the country hereabouts is remarkably pleasant, and the roads in general pretty good; the hedge-rows are well timbered; the land plentifully watered; a small stream, which rises in a place called Lemon's-Dale in Arkesdon, after being joined by another small stream which comes from Langley, takes it's coarse through this parish to Manuden, and from thence to the river Stort. The village is small and irregular; the houses in general but mean in appearance, in which no kind of manufactory is carried on; a shop or two here that supply this parish and neighbourhood with conveniences

encies, and husbandry, being the chief support of the inhabitants. Clavering and the hamlet of Langley make but one parish. There is not any mention of Langley in the conqueror's record (says Dr. Salmon) though it is said to contain above twelve hundred acres; Clavering has been computed at three thousand; at what time this computation or measurement was made I do not find, nor whether the lands of Langley are comprehended in the sum set down for Clavering. Clavering is mentioned in Domesday-book, where it is called *Clavelinga*, and was then held by Swenus de Essex, a mighty man in these parts, who possessed no less than fifty-five lordships in this county, the head of whose barony was Raleigh.\* The manors, or reputed manors in this parish are those of Clavering, and Curles.

The manor of CLAVERING. Clavering-bury, standing on the north side of the church, the residence of the ancient lords of this place, and the head of the barony of Clavering, was a *castle*, some of the walls of which were not long since standing. There is still a large area belonging thereto, with a deep

\* Hugh de Essex, grandson to Suene, was in the reign of king Henry II. constable and standard-bearer to the king by inheritance; but which he forfeited by his cowardice in the wars of Wales in the year 1163, throwing down the royal ensign, and betaking himself to flight, whereby the English, apprehending the king was slain, fell into confusion and were utterly routed. For which being charged with treason by Robert de Montford, and in a solemn trial by battle entirely vanquished, he ought to have suffered death by the law had not the king's clemency interposed, who, sparing his life, caused him to be shorn a monk in the abbey of Reading, seized on his whole estate, and divided it amongst his favourites.

trench. — After the forfeiture of Hugh de Essex, (as mentioned in the note above,) this lordship became vested in the crown, where it remained till king Henry II. granted it to Robert Fitz-Roger, in whose posterity it continued for several generations, and who from hence took the surname of de Clavering. John de Clavering, who died in the year 1332, long before his death, apprehending he should have no male issue, settled the reversion of his manors on king Edward I. who in consideration thereof gave him another estate of four hundred pounds yearly. On his death his patrimonial estate came to the crown. In 1311 John de Clavering and his wife, settled by fine, this manor on themselves for life, the remainder to John de Neville, and his heirs. In 1328 king Edward III. granted this manor to Edmund, brother of John Clavering; remainder to Ralph de Neville and his heirs; by which means the younger branch of this family, (the chief whereof is still in being at Calvley in Northumberland,) were bereft of their inheritance. However, upon the death of Edmund Clavering, about the latter end of king Edward the Third's reign, this lordship came into the Neville family again, lords of Raby, and earls of Westmoreland. Sir John de Neville, of Raby, died in 1388 possessed of this manor: his son Ralph de Neville, the first earl of Westmoreland, did the like in the year 1425. His grandson Ralph, by his son John, deceased, was his heir. Joane, second wife of the said Ralph, first earl of Westmoreland, and sister of John of Gaunt, duke

of Lancaster, held this manor at the time of her death, in 1440. Her eldest son Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury, was her heir, and his grandson Richard, the third earl of Salisbury, having married Anne, daughter of Richard Beauchamp earl of Warwick, (in whose right he was also earl of Warwick) had by her two daughters, Isabel and Anne; the latter of whom married first to Edward Prince of Wales, son of king Henry VI. and then to Richard duke of York, afterwards king Richard III. Isabel, the eldest, had for her husband Richard Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, brother to king Edward IV. She died in 1478 possessed of this manor, and was succeeded herein by her son Edward earl of Warwick, who being the last of the line of Plantagenet, was beheaded in 1498 under pretence of treason, whereupon this manor came to the crown: but in 1513 his sister Margaret, (married to Sir Richard Pole, knight of the garter) petitioned king Henry VIII. to be permitted to inherit the estate of her brother, the earl of Warwick, and to be stiled the countess of Salisbury, which the king granted that year: however, in 1539, she had the misfortune to be beheaded, and this estate fell to the crown again. Her son, Henry Pole, lord Montague, (who was involved in the same condemnation) left two daughters coheirs, Catharine wife, of Francis earl of Huntingdon, and Winifred, married to Thomas Hastings, second son to George earl of Huntingdon, and after his death to Sir Thomas Barrington. These two ladies upon their petition to parliament in 1553, were re-flored



stored in blood, and queen Mary, in the first year of her reign, granted this manor to Sir Thomas Hastings and Winifred his wife, and the heirs of her body. Lady Winifred Barrington died in 1602 possessed of this manor and half hundred. Her eldest son Sir Francis Barrington, bart. succeeded to this estate; he was one of the representatives for this county in the parliament that met 43 Elizab. in all the parliaments of king James I. except the second, and in the three first parliaments of king Charles I. His son Sir Thomas was his successor in this estate, and he was succeeded by his son Sir John Barrington, knt. and bart. who had for his successor his grandson Sir John Barrington\*, who dying unmarried was succeeded by his next brother and heir Sir Charles Barrington† who dying in January 1714-15, left this manor and other estates in this county, to his sister Anne, wife of Charles Shales, esq. for life, and to her children after her: upon her decease the eldest son, Riche Barrington Shales, esq. succeeded, and upon his death his younger brother was his heir, and is the present possessor.

The manor of CURLES has an old mansion a little way south from the church. This manor hath passed through the families of Walden, Crulle, and others to that of Barlee, from whom it descended to the present owner Miss Catharine Buckle.

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\* This gentleman was educated at Trinity College, Cambridgeshire, and gave the plate there which bears his name.

† Sir Charles was seven times elected knight of this shire against powerful opposers; and in the reign of queen Anne was deputy-lieutenant and vice-admiral of Essex.



## Charitable Benefactions.

A barrel of white herrings, and a cade of red, in lent, issuing out of a farm in this parish called Valence.

A noble yearly, part of Mrs. Martin's bequest.

Three pounds yearly out of Curles, the donor unknown; whereof forty shillings for twenty-two penny loaves to be given the first Sunday in every month: the other twenty shillings to be given in groats; namely, five groats the first Sunday in every month for the relief of poor widows.

John Smith, vicar here, having left to this parish about eighty pounds, his widow, upon having the use of it during her life, promised to make it up one hundred pounds, and accordingly did so; a parcel of land, called Poor Dernels in Langley was purchased with it; the produce of which being six pounds yearly, is distributed among all the poor families by feoffees.

A farm of six pounds a year in Berden was given by Haynes Barlee of Curles, esq. to put out poor children apprentices, out of six parishes alternately whereof this is one.

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given to the priory of Prittlewell by Robert de Effex, founder of that house, in the reign of king Henry II. The rectory, or great tythes were appropriated to them, and a vicarage endowed. That convent enjoyed the rectory and presented to the

the vicarage till their dissolution, in the reign of king Henry VIII. when that monarch granted them to Henry Parker, esq. of Berden, whose family enjoyed them for some time: lady Mary Ramsey, (relict of Sir Thomas Ramsey, lord mayor of London in the year 1577) about the year 1592, gave this rectory and advowson to the hospitals of Christ Church, Bethlehem, and St. Thomas, who are the present possessors\*.

The church and chancel are of stone, leaded and embattled; the former consists of a spacious middle pace and two handsome ayless, the latter is of one pace only; the tower, at the west end, is of stone, embattled, and contains six bells.

In the chancel, against the south wall, is a small and neat marble monument, with the effigy in miniature of the person to whose memory it is there placed: beneath the effigy is this inscription:

D. Johannis Smith, Warwicensis: Di Johannis præcursoris apud Oxen: Quondam scilicet; dem in æde Paulin. Thelog. Rectoris post, Ecclesiæ hujus per annos 25, pastoris vigilantissimi, viri sinceræ pietatis, sapientiæ, eruditionis, eloquentiæ, gravitatis, laudibus eximii, memoriæ sacrum.

Pie obdormivit in Domino anno ætat. 56

An Dom. 1616.

In English thus:

Sacred the memory of Mr. John Smith, a Warwickshire man; sometime fellow of St. John's Oxford; then a divine of St. Paul's

\* She gave to the same uses the manor and rectory of Colne Engaine, founded the free school at Halled, and was a great benefactor to Peter-House, Cambridge.

church;

church; afterwards rector of this parish twenty-five years. He was a most vigilant pastor, and a man greatly esteemed for his real piety, wisdom, learning, eloquence, and gravity.

He piously slept in the Lord in the fifty-sixth year of his age, in the year of our Lord 1616.

At the end of the north ayfle is a part railed in, and raised above the floor of the church, beneath which is a vault wherein the family of Barlee are buried: against the west wall of which is a neat marble monument, having thereupon the bust of the person to whose memory it is erected: over the bust is a neat arched pediment supported by two marble columns of the Ionic order: beneath the pediment is the emblematic device of a round ball, with an *alpha* and *omega* marked thereupon, upon which ball is placed a bible: beneath the pedestal upon which the bust is placed, is this inscription:

Here under lieth buried Mary, fourth daughter of Edmund Turner of Walden in this county, gentleman, and Elizabeth his wife, second wife of Haynes Barlee, esq. by whom he had a very plentiful fortune but no issue. She died the fifth of March, 1658, was a lovinge and obedient wife, in whose memory he erected this monument.

In the same place, but against the north wall, is a handsome modern monument of white and veined marble; under a pediment, supported by two Ionic pillars, is the bust of the person to whose memory it is there placed, in alabaster; and under the bust this inscription:

In the vault underneath  
are deposited  
the remains of Haynes Barlee, esq.  
with those of his three wives :

the last was Mary  
one of the daughters of William Riddleston, esq.  
by whom he left issue

four sons,  
William, Haynes, Charles, and Edward.

He } died } May 21, 1696,  
She } } Dec. 28, 1714.

This monument is gratefully dedicated to both their memories  
by Palgrave Barlee, esq.

Near the last described is another mural monument,  
with the bust of the person thereon, dressed in the  
fashion of those days when the hair was worn  
very long, and hanging over the front of each shoulder  
in ringlets. This monument is built after the model  
of the last described one, but in a different order of  
architecture ; the inscription upon it informs us, that

Hereunder lieth buried Margaret, eldest daughter of George  
Oliver, of Great Wilbraham, gent. wife of Haynes Barlee of Curls  
in this parish, by whom he had issue fower sonnes and nine daugh-  
ters. Six of them died in their infancy, and the last was still born,  
and within five days after his birth she died. And as she was  
fruitful in children, so was she fully endowed with the properties of  
a good woman and a faithful, loving, and obedient wife, to her  
husband, who happily enjoyed her sixteen years.

She died 16 December, 1653.

Beneath the inscription are the effigies of four girls  
and five skulls on one side a table, kneeling, and two  
sons and two skulls on the other side.

In

## CLAVERING HUNDRED.

In the window of the place where the Barlee family are buried is painted on the glafs :

William Barlee of the Middle Temple, eldest son of Haynes Barlee and Mary his wife, daughter of William Riddlefden. esq. he died in 1683, and lieth hereunder invaulted.

Frances Riddlefden, daughter of William Riddlefden, esq. son of Sir Stephen Riddlefden, knt. and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Palgrave, esq. she died in 1694.

Haynes Barlee, eldest son of Haynes Barlee, esq. he was born in 1646, and died in 1661.

This last inscription being preserved by Dr. Salmon, we have been able to give it ; otherwise we could not, a great part of the glafs upon which it is wrote being broke.

In the middle of the church is this inscription :

Hic jacet Ursula uxor Thomæ Welbore, de Pondes in Clavering gen. filie Sylvestri D'Anvers de Dauntesey in Com. Wilton armig. ac Eliz. unius uxoris ejus filierum Johannes Mordaunt, militis, Ob. 26 Dec. 1591.

In English thus :

Here lies Ursula, wife of Thomas Welbore, of Pondes in Clavering, gent. and daughter of Sylvester D'anvers, of Dauntesey, in the county of Wilts, esq. and of Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Sir John Mordaunt, knight. She died on the 26th day of December, 1591.

On the ground, in the middle pace of the church, are inscriptions for

Richard Godfrey, gent. sometime of this parish. He died Oct. 11, 1699.

Mary, his first wife. She died in 1683



Ann, his second wife, who died in 1690.

Joane Day, who died Feb. 3, 1483.

Robert Day, son of George Day, who died in 1581.

In the middle pace of the church, against the east wall, is a monument in memory of

William Barlee, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, one of the daughters and coheirs of John Serle, of Barkway, gent. he died in 1619. John Barlee, esq. son of William, married Mary, daughter of John Haynes, of Old-hall in Essex, esq. he died in 1633, Mary in 1643, and William, their son, in 1635.

In the north ayfle is a stone stair-case in the column next to the chancel, which is supposed to have led to some gallery that was there formerly.

At the end of the said ayfle, under an arch in the north wall, is the effigy of a person dressed in armour, lying upon his back; his right hand, which rests upon his left breast, holds a sword. No traces of any inscription can be discovered; we are therefore at a loss to guess to whose memory the effigy is there placed. A foolish tradition prevails among the inhabitants, that it is in memory of a person who broke his leg in the building of the church; but we cannot see any thing to justify such an opinion, for was that the case, his being dressed in armour would be quite absurd: perhaps it may be for the founder of the church, as in several churches in this country we find the effigies of the founders, which effigies generally are placed under a wall of the church.

At the east end of this ayfle is a mural monument  
with this inscription upon it :

H. S. E.

Johannes Stephenson, armiger,  
Gulielmi de Hawton in Agro Cantab.  
de Stirpe Stephensoniani Eborate oriundi  
filius unicus,

nec non

Anna sua conjux,  
filia & una cohæredum,

Henrici Patten,

hujus ville de Clavering generosi.

Ille obiit secundo Junii, an. dom. 1741, æt. 75.

hæc vero Nov. 27, A. D. 1722, æt. 49.

Johannes Stephenson  
de Newtorrin agro Cantabrigiensi armig :  
optimis parentibus  
hoc monumentum  
posuit.

In English thus :

Here lies

John Stephenson, esquire,  
only son

of William, of Hawton in Cambridgeshire,  
descended from the family of the Stephensons of Yorkshire ;  
and Ann his wife

daughter and one of the co-heiresses  
of Henry Patten

of this village of Clavering, gentleman.

He died on the second of June, in the year of our Lord 1741,  
aged 75 ;

and she on the 27th of Nov. in the year 1722  
aged 49.

John Stephenson  
of Newtorrin in Cambridgeshire esquire  
erected this monument  
to the best of parents.

In the same ayfle upon the ground, are epitaphs in memory of

William Benson, second son of William and Elizabeth Benson, of Brent-Green : he died Jan. 1, 1677.

William Benson of Brent-Green, gent. and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Barley, esq. he died Aug. 10, 1659; she in 1677.

Christopher, their seventh son, who died Sept. 4, 1684.

Henry Patten, gent. of the Place in this parish, who died Aug. 6, 1757; and for his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Stock, of Chishall, gent.

## L A N G L E Y

IS a hamlet to Clavering, and formerly belonged to the priory of St. Bartholemew, in West Smithfield; but at what time, and by whom, it was given to it, does not appear. At the dissolution of monasteries, &c. king Henry VIII. gave the manor of Langley, with Langley-hall-grove, to John Gate, esq. who in 1550 alienated it to William Bradbury, esq. whose family enjoyed it for several generations. The next owner, upon record, is the Luther family, and of them it was purchased by Jacob Houblon, esq. father to the present owner.

LANGLEY-LAWN is about half a mile west of Langley-chapel. The Nightingale family possessed this estate for some years, and Sir Thomas Nightingale, bart. built a pretty house here called Clavering Park. This was purchased by John Smith, esq. whose daughter Ann succeeded him herein: she was married to Thomas Milner, esq. who having pulled

down the old one, built an elegant house here. At his death his son Thomas succeeded him; and he had for his successor his cousin Robert Milner. Robert Cramond, esq. had it afterwards, and it now belongs to his son.

Langley-chapel, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a chapel of ease to Clavering church, to which it hath been annexed from time immemorial. A new chancel was built at the charge of the hospitals.

### CLAVERING VICARAGE, with LANGLEY CHAPEL.

INCUMBENT.

PATRONS.

Rev. James Penn.

Governors of the Hospital of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 2 13 11½

£. 2 5 4¼

## B E R D E N.

**T**HIS parish, which adjoins the one last treated of upon it's south side, stands upon an eminence about three miles out of the high road from London to Cambridge, Newmarket, &c. in length it is computed to be about three miles, and in breadth one and a half; it is distant from Stortford six, and from Saffron Walden about eight miles: the soil here is

is rather light, the situation pleasant, convenient, and healthy.

BERDEN-HALL adjoins the church-yard. This manor, not long after the conquest, was holden by a family furnamed de Rochford, from Rochford town; which family was succeeded in this estate by that of Bohun, and William de Bohun and Elizabeth his wife, gave the manor of Berden to the abbey of Walden; in which abbey it continued till it's dissolution, when king Henry VIII. granted it, amongst divers other gifts, to Sir Thomas Audeley, lord chancellor, from whom it descended, in like manner as Walden did, to Thomas lord Howard and Catherine his wife: and they in 1597 alienated this manor to Thomas Sutton, esq. Afterwards Berden-hall was purchased by the family of Calvert of Pelham Furneuse. The Calvert family have had it for some years, and it is now in Nicholson Calvert, esq. of Hunsdon, Herts.

The PRIORY of BERDEN was a small hospital or priory for canons of the order of St. Augustin, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. It is not known when or by whom it was founded, but most probably it was in the begining of the reign of king Henry III. by some of the Rochfords. The patronage of it was given by William Bohun earl of Northampton to the abbey of Walden in 1343. In 1236 the prior had licence to hold a fair here. Their lands, besides what they had in this parish, lay in Manuden, Henham, Rickling, and Rochford. The prior was also patron of the rectory, which in 1427 they



they got annexed to their house by bishop Grey, upon complaints of their poverty, and a vicarage was appointed, and endowed with all oblations, obventions, and all other profits of that kind, and all the small tythes of this parish. But poverty pressing again, in 1514, bishop Fitz-James appointed that the vicarage should also be appropriated to their house, which since has been no more than a curacy, to which the owner of the priory-lands nominates, and the bishop gives a licence. The bishop did appropriate it, though these things were seldom done with the good pleasure of the diocesan, but from the powerful interest which the regulars could make with the pope. This priory, valued (according to Dugdale) at 29l. 6s. 4d. (and according to Speed at 31l. 5s. 1d.) was, upon the suppression, granted by king Henry VIII. to Henry Parker, and his heirs male, together with the rectory. Sir Thomas Wroth afterwards possessed them, and was succeeded therein by Thomas and Margery Averie. The next possessor was Sir Thomas Ramsey, who in September 1583, alienated it to the mayor and commonality of the city of London, governors of the hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas, this manor or priory, with the appertenance, twenty messuages, twenty cottages, twenty gardens, twenty orchards, a thousand acres of arable, two hundred of meadow, three hundred of pasture, one hundred of wood, and 100l. rent; and the rectories of Berden and Clavering, and the advowson of those two churches.

In

In this priory, about twenty years ago, two stone coffin lids were taken up.

By the instrument for endowing the vicarage, (quoted by Mr. Newcourt,) it appears, that the vicar of Berden was to receive all manner of great and small, and mixed tythes of the land called Bolington's-end, and of fifty acres belonging to the tenement of Edmund Roke. Whether this was once a part of the parish called *Bolington*, some of the lands of which seem laid to the neighbouring parishes; or whether it was so called from lying next to *Bolington*, nothing shews. Yet the ascertaining these tythes to the vicar of Berden particularly, looks as if there had once been another pretender to them.

### Charitable Benefaction.

Between four and five pounds a year, fifty shillings of which are paid out of Lamberts in Berden, are distributed amongst the poor of this parish.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

There are not any institutions registered on account of this being only a curacy in the nomination of the governors of the hospitals.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, stands low,\* and is built cathedraiwise: the chancel is of one pace, tiled: a square tower, at the west end, contains five bells: upon the tower is a cupola.

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\* Most of those churches standing low, or low built, are dedicated to that Saint; so those dedicated to St. Michael, stand on a rising ground.

In

In the chancel is a neat mural monument, having thereupon the following inscription :

Here is buried the body of Thomas Alderfaie by advancement an esquier : a gentleman born at Bumberie in Cheshire where for the virtuous edication of their youth he hath erected a free school with two masters : for the religious instruction of the people he hath endowed the parish with two Preachers : for the relief of the poor he hath assigned maintenance for all richly. He died in 1598.

In the chancel, upon the ground, are epitaphs for Thomasine, wife of Mr. Thomas Meade, of London, merchant : she died in the year 1666.

Dame Mary Scott daughter of John Aldersey of Berden-hall in Essex, gent. first married to Thomas Westrowe, alderman of London ; then to Sir Norton Knatchbull, of Hatch in Kent, knt. and lastly to Sir Edward Scot, of Scot's hall in Kent, knt. She died in 1678, in her 89th year. She was worthily in great reputation for her piety and zeal in the reformed religion ; for her exemplary virtue in the relations of a wife and mother, and for generous hospitality, bounty, and charity to the full extent of her estate.

In the chancel, against the north wall, is a tomb, with the effigy of a man and woman in two plates of brass, and underneath, in another plate of brass, is an epitaph for

Ann Thompson, wife of Thomas Thompson, of Berden. She died in child-bed on St. James's Day, 1607, aged 31.

Hir soule hir self to virtue she did give  
To treade the steps of truth and pietie  
She died in life, and now by death doth live,  
The lasting joys of heavenly blis to see.

Several effigies are beneath this inscription in another plate of brass.

In the north ayfle, upon a tomb-ftone, is a plate of brafs with this infcription thereupon :

Of your charitie pray for the foules of William Turner and Margery his wyf. The whiche William decessed the xth day of November 1473. On whose foules Jesu have mercy. Amen.

In the south ayfle is an epitaph for  
Thomas Grove, esq. who died in 1669.

And for

Mr. Robert Martin, who died in 1738.

In the same ayfle, upon the ground, is an epitaph for Judith, late wife of Joseph Hammond, who died March 31, 1739, and for Joseph their son, who died on infant.

### BERDEN CURACY.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Paul Wright, M. A. Governors of Chriff's Hospital.  
1759

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£ 50 0 0

### U G L E Y.

**T**HIS parish adjoins Berden upon it's south and south-east sides, and is in the great road from London to Cambridge, Newmarket, &c. being distant from the metropolis thirty-five miles; from

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Q

Bishop

Bishops Stortford five; and from Saffron Walden seven. The village is small and pleasant, and the soil hereabouts mixed: Ugly is divided from Henham by a small brook. The name of this place is variously written in old records, but the present incumbent informs us, that the true name was *Oakly*, which the Norman clerks, by their uncouth way of pronunciation turned into *Ugly*. At the time of the conqueror's survey this parish was one of the fourteen manors in this county holden by Alberic de Vere. Hence his descendants, the Veres earls of Oxford, continued lords paramount of this place till it became united to the dutchy of Lancaster.

OAKLEY-HALL, which is the manor-house, adjoins the west end of the church-yard. From the de Vere family this estate passed to the crown, but how it came thither does not appear. John of Gaunt, earl of Richmond, fourth son of king Edward III. having married Blanch, one of the daughters and co-heirs of Thomas Plantagenet, duke of Lancaster, became in her right duke of Lancaster, and had with her, amongst several estates, this manor. In 1409 king Henry IV. granted the manor and village of Oakley to John Laventhorp and Catharine his wife, and to their heirs male, in socage, to hold of the dutchy of Lancaster; and in their posterity they continued for several generations: they were succeeded herein by Sir Thomas Middleton, of Stansted-hall, knt. whose son Sir Thomas succeeded him, and at his death they were sold to Thomas Heath, esq. of Stansted,



Stansted, and from him they passed to Bailey Heath, esq. and are now in his son, William Heath, of Stansted-hall, esq.

The manor of BOLLINGTON, sometimes called *Ballington*, hath a hall about half a mile south-west from the church. According to Domesday-book Suene had a manor here, and Robert de Gernon another. The latter was by the surveyors allowed to have come into his fairly: it lay contiguous to his manor of Stansted. Suene is found to hold his by invasion of the king's right to those lands.\*

BREND-HALL is frequently mentioned with this manor as if they were distinct, though it seems to have been the same as Bollington-hall, only so named from it's having been burnt. If this was once a distinct village, as it seems to have been, and the lands absorbed into the neighbouring villages, this might happen upon the invasion of Suene, who got it dismembered to conceal his fraud. In the reign of king

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\* 'It may be asked how such an invader as king William should suffer himself to be invaded by his subjects? It may be remembered that Suene was sheriff of Essex to collect the king's revenue. And considering the king was frequently in Normandy, he might have an opportunity of making a long arm, and laying a slice of ground to his manor of Clavering and bringing deficiencies into his account, which when he was out of office a jury would detect. It is observable, that the conqueror, who generally took one third of a county for his own demesne, made himself heir to the possessions of Harold. The confusion which happened from Suene's chopping and changing and smuggling lands, brought the people into so great an uncertainty, that the juries knew not to which parish some of them belonged. Brend-hall is, in one return, said to be in the manor of Rickling, which was the king's demesne; so Suene might exempt his lands in Bollington from the service of a subject, by tacking them to the king's manor.' Morant's Hist. of Essex, vol. ii. p. 617.

Edward I. this manor belonged to Fulk de Batonia or Bath, and from him it passed to William de Montcheny. It was afterwards parcelled out, and in different hands. In 1502 this lordship was given to Westminster-abbey by Sir Reginald Bray, John Cutte, Edmund Dudley, and others. After the suppression of monasteries, king Henry VIII. granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster, and their successors, in pure alms, this amongst other estates; but in 1553 king Edward VI. granted this manor to Richard Chamond, and others. The family of Buck held it after them; since when this estate hath been in the family of Symonds and of Pepys, of the Pool at Yeldham. John Poulter, attorney at Clare, having got it into his lands, sold it to William Plummer, esq. late knight of the shire for the county of Hertford.

Admiral Russel, afterwards earl of Orford, built a good house in this parish, which from him is called Orford-house: it stands on the right hand side of the high road to Cambridge; it is distant about a mile and a quarter from the church, is a good building of brick, and has been greatly enlarged, and fine plantations and improvements made to it by the present worthy owner Isaac Whittington, esq. one of the six clerks in the court of chancery.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Mr. Robert Buck, born at Bollington-hall in this parish, bequeathed his estate at Charing in the parish  
of

of Leeds, otherwise Langley, in Kent, to the company of drapers, London, (of which he was a worthy member,) that out of it should be paid twenty pounds of lawful money of England, to clothe three poor men and three poor women, of the parish of Oakley, Manuden, and Stansted Montfitchet, (in which two last part of his estate lay) which parishes enjoy the said benefaction of twenty pounds in their turns. The coats of the men and gowns of the women are of neat grey cloth, the mens breeches of the same, the women have likewise grey petticoats: the mens waistcoats are of Jannes fustian, and the men and women are allowed shoes and stockings; the former wear Monmouth caps, and the latter neat high-crowned hats. The dress of each man and woman is reckoned about three pounds value; the rest pays for the making. His will is dated Nov. 17, 1620.

—— Buck, of the same family, about the year 1570, gave to this parish a tenement and a small piece of land, let at five pounds a year, in the parish of Rickling: the disposal of it is in feoffees, and coarse cloth is purchased with it, and given to the poor.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was anciently a rectory, but afterwards appropriated to the abbey of St. Osyth, which had the advowson of the vicarage till their suppression. Queen Elizabeth, in the year 1561, granted the advowson of the vicarage to Ralph Bosville, and in 1598,  
she

she gave the rectory to Henry Best and Robert Holland, to hold of her manor of Greenwich by fealty, in free and common burgage. Sir Henry Maynard, in the year 1610, died possessed of them; whose son Sir William Maynard, bart. sold them to William lord Craven, who gave them to the hospitals, that have presented ever since the year 1619, and have built a good new vicarage house.

Church and chancel are of one pace only; the former tiled, and the latter leaded: at the west end, in a tower, which has a cupola tiled, are three bells. A chapel is on the south side of the church, but by whom erected cannot be traced: it belongs to Bollington-hall, and is repaired by the owner.

In the chancel are three mural monuments with epitaphs: one for

Martha Hester, who died May 11, 1759, aged 17; Jenny who died April 29, 1755; Mary, Sarah, Charles; and Elizabeth who died Jan. 10, 1761. The others died young.

The one against the east-wall, is in memory of

Mary, the wife of Paul Wright, M. A. vicar, and daughter of Charles Bridgeman, gent. alderman and twice mayor of Hertford. She was a dutiful child, an affectionate and prudent wife; a tender and indulgent parent; a kind mistress, a true friend, a sincere christian. These virtues procured her love and esteem, and have prepared her for a glorious resurrection. She died Nov. 14, 1760, aged 49 years.

The third, which is against the south wall, is in memory of

The rev. Edward Sparkes, M. A. vicar of this parish, and of King's Langley in Herts, who by a life adorned with christian virtue,

and

and a sincere unaffected piety, instructed those who were committed to his care, no less than by his ministerial labours : humane and benevolent to all : the sick and poor found comfort from his attendance, and relief from his charity.

He died March 25, 1739, aged 56.

Mary his wife, died November 5, 1562,  
aged 80.

In the middle of the church, on a brass plate, is the effigy of a woman yet remaining ; the man's figure is lost. Below the effigy is this inscription :

Here lyeth buried the body of Richard Stock who deceased the iii of May 1558. He had to wife Alice Hobbs, and had issue by her ii sons and iii daughters,

Near the desk is a blue marble stone, which had formerly the effigies of some persons, and at each corner a coat of arms ; but these and the figure above, were said to be stolen away in the latter days of Mr. Jacob Maldon, who was vicar of this parish upwards of sixty-one years, and was buried here in the year 1720.

## OAKLEY VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Paul Wright, M.A. Governors of Christ's Hospital.

1740.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£. 14 13 4

£. 0 19 4

MANUDEN



## M A N U D E N.

**S**TANDS south of the two last-described parishes. It is of pretty large extent, being reckoned in circumference to measure between eight and nine miles. It is situate about a mile and a half east of the London road, is distant from Saffron-Walden about nine miles, and from Bishop's-Stortford four. The houses stand chiefly in a vale, through which runs the river Stort: a fair for toys is held here every Easter Monday. The soil is of various kinds, some light and some heavy, but in general it is pretty good land: the inhabitants of this place are chiefly supported by husbandry, and by a few small shops that supply the neighbourhood with necessaries. The lands here are chiefly divided into the following manors; namely, the manor of Manuden-hall, that of Batails, Payton-hall, Pinchpoles, and Sawcemeres.

The mansion to the first-named manor stands a few rods east of the church. This manor formerly belonged to Robert Gernon, lord of Stansted Montfichet; and from him descended to the family of Playz, then to that of Howard, and afterwards to the De Vere family. It was in the reign of king Henry VII. in the possession of John Gardiner, and afterwards in the families of Bradbury, Crawley, Meade, Bradbury, Bendish, and Calvert. William Calvert, esq.

esq. in the year 1712, sold it to Thomas Tooke, D. D. and master of Bishops Stortford's school. Mrs. Ann Tooke, his widow, enjoyed it in jointure after his decease. Then, after her decease, according to limitation in the Doctor's will, it descended to his brother the rev. John Tooke, who departing this life in 1764, was succeeded by the present owner, the rev. Mr. Nicholas Tooke, rector of Barnstone.

The mansion-house to the manor of BATAILS stands about a mile north-west from the church, and is a building raised by Sir William Waad, knt. It hath always been reputed to take it's name from one of it's most ancient owners, surnamed Bataile or Bataile. We find it afterwards in the family of Fynderne and Hiron. Of Roger Townshend, esq. this manor, and divers other lands, were purchased by Owen Waller of London, fishmonger, who was succeeded herein by his daughter Anne, afterwards married to Sir William Waad\*. His son James was his heir, and he was succeeded by his son William Waad, esq. commonly called Captain Waad, on account of his being captain of the Trained Bands. He was murdered in July 1677, in a field near his house, by one Parsons, a fellow of a debauched life and ill-fame,

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\* For a particular account of Sir William see the inscription upon his monument in the church of Manuden.—His father was clerk of the council to king Henry VIII. and Edward VI. styled the ENGLISH COLUMBUS, having been the first of our nation that discovered America. He died June 20, 1568, and lies buried in the chancel of Hampstead in Middlesex. Upon his monument is a full account of him.

reputed by some a highwayman ; who had insinuated himself into his company, and whom he commonly entertained in his house, assisted upon several occasions, and from time to time conferred many singular obligations upon : a sufficient caution to gentlemen not to grow too soon intimate with persons, whose real characters they are not acquainted with.\* Anne,  
his

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\* The occasion of this tragical affair, is related as follows in a pamphlet printed at the time, intitled *Boteler's Cafe*. ' In July ' 1677, a difference suddenly arose between Captain Waad and ' Robert Parsons, because, as it is suspected, the captain had refused to lend the other money, as he desired him. High words ' passed on either side, so that captain Waad called the fellow thief, ' and he in return gave the captain the lie twice, who was there- ' upon so far provoked as to turn him out of his company not with- ' out blows. Parsons, bent upon revenge, went to London, and ' trappanned one William Boteler down to Bishops-Stortford to be ' his second in fighting the captain ; but under pretence of procu- ' ring a reconciliation between them. Parsons, not daring himself ' to go to the captain's house, staid in a field near, called Ballengers- ' grove, and sent Boteler either with a challenge or to decoy the ' captain to the place where he was waiting. However the captain ' walked down with Boteler to the place, having in his hand his ' child's sword, which is supposed to have been carried as a little ' stick might have been, or what is called a play-thing. He was ' found dead being run through the reins, or bottom of the back, ' the little sword sticking in a tree. Whilst that tragedy was acting, ' Boteler rode gently on to Bishop's-Stortford : when he was about ' half way, Parsons, upon a swift gallop overtook him, and crying ' out to him only *He is fallen*, passed by him, and did not stop till ' he came to Stortford. They got to the Rein Deer whence they ' had come that morning, and by the help of *Elizabeth*, or as she ' was usually called *Betty Ainsworth*, the landlady of the inn, had

horses

his widow, survived him many years, not being buried till December 1, 1724. As they had no issue surviving, he was succeeded in this estate by his sister Anne, wife of Sir Edward Baesh, of Stanstead Bury in Hertfordshire. They sold it to William Calverr, esq. from whom it has descended to Nicholson Calvert, of Hunsdon in Hertfordshire, esq.

The mansion to the manor of PEYTON-HALL stands about a mile and a half north of the church.

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'horses that carried them off before any pursuit was made. Boteler  
'was taken, and executed at Chelmsford September 10, 1677.  
'Parsons got to Holland, whence coming over with king William,  
'he obtained a pardon, to the everlasting infamy of those who pro-  
'cured a pardon for a wretch guilty of so base a murder. The wo-  
'man, *Aynsworth*, was also tried upon the evidence of Mr. Saun-  
'ders, apothecary, who overheard her in the street asking them,  
'"Have you killed him then?" She endeavoured to throw herself  
'into the river at Chelmsford bridge as she was carried to Jail, but  
'was prevented. The jury had not proof enough to find her guilty.  
'This famous landlady had been carted out of Cambridge for a  
'bawd, then settled at Stortford, and at length got into so good a  
'plight as to entertain the nobility and foreign ambassadors between  
'London and Newmarket, serving them in plate with all the vari-  
'eties they desired. She had once a frolic still talked of in the town.  
'The proctor of the University, who had driven her away, lodged  
'one night at her house with others whom the stage-coach had  
'brought; they bespoke, as usual, their mutton and fowls, after  
'which, to their great surprise, was served up a most elegant sup-  
'per all in plate, with Margoux and Pontax, which they were  
'afraid to touch lest they should have a lord's reckoning to pay.  
'Upon which the woman appeared, and said it was the least she  
'could do in return of that Gentleman's whipping her out, by  
'which she had so much advanced herself.

The families upon record through which this estate has passed are those of Newport, Waad, Berlee, Buckle and Martin, in which last it still continues.

The mansion to the manor of PINCHPOLES stands in a bottom about half a mile north north-east from the church. In 1502 John Cutte gave this manor to the abbot of Westminster and his successors, who enjoyed it till their dissolution, when king Henry VIII. (in 1542) granted it, among several others, in pure alms to the dean and chapter of Westminster: but in 1553 king Edward VI. granted it to Richard Clamond, who sold it to Clement Buck, and from his family it passed to that of Hobbes, and the Hobbes family was succeeded by Peter Knight, of West-Ham, esq. from whom it descended to the present owner Joseph Douglas Knight, esq.

The manor of SAWCEMERES, or *Sawcemotes* originally belonged to the dutchy of Lancaster, or rather to the honor of Mandeville, that was incorporated into that dutchy. The mansion is a long mile west from the church. From time immemorial this manor belonged to the Sawcemere family, which was succeeded by John Bataile: it has since passed through a variety of owners, and belongs now to Philip Martin, gent. attorney at law at Lipping in this county.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

In 1569 Mr. William Bull, citizen and haberdasher London, gave a mark yearly to the poor here.

Mr.



Mr. Robert Buck's gift of six suits of apparel, [See under Berden.]

In 1659 Mr. John Jacklyn gave a little tenement to the poor here.

In 1675 the rev. Mr. John Pakeman gave another little tenement to the poor here.

In 1699 Mr. Thomas Parker, woolen-draper, gave 100l to be laid out in a freehold estate, to be appropriated to the benefit of the poor of this parish.

In 1709 Mr. William Gardiner, citizen and apothecary of London, gave one hundred pounds to be laid out in a freehold estate for the benefit of the poor of this parish.

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given by Richard de Comville and Alice his wife, to the monks of St. Melan in Bretagne, who had a cell at Hatfield Regis before it was turned into a priory. The rectory or great tythes were afterwards appropriated to King's Hatfield-priory; and a vicarage was here ordained, of which the prior and convent continued patrons till their dissolution; when the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted by king Henry VIII. to Sir Humfry Brown. They have since passed through Sir Anthony Browne, Roger Townesend, esq. Wymond Cary, esq. William Rooper and Robert James, gents. George James, esq. George James, gent. Mr. George James was possessed of this estate a few years ago: this parsonage has since been sold to William Woolball and Robert

Robert Pycroft, esqrs. trustees for Mr. Truby's family. In 1720 Richard James and James Walsingham, esqrs. presented to the vicarage. In 1731 and 1740, Henry Southouse, esq. presented, and dying in 1744, was succeeded in this estate by his son Samuel Bull, esq. the present owner.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is built in cathedral form, with north and south transept. The chancel is spacious: at the west end is a stone tower, containing five bells: upon the tower is a small spire shingled. The church and chancel are both tiled, the transepts leaded. The north transept belongs to Battails. Adjoining to the south transept is a school; but which is not at present made use of.

In the chancel on the ground is an epitaph for Gertrude, wife of Richard James. She died in 1634.

A mural monument in the north ayse, hath this epitaph in letters of gold.

Gulielmus Wead eques auratus Armigildi filius Dominæ Elizabethæ secretorum consilia per plures annos secretarius: semel ad imperatorem Rodolphum & ad Philippum regem Hispaniæ ad Henricum 3 regem Galliarum ter ad Henricum 4 Galliæ & Navarre Semel & ad Mariam Scotiæ reginam missus in diversis arduis negotiis generalis Angliæ commissarius & supravisor Hybernæ cohortium ac etiam secreto consilio serenissimi domini nostri regis Jacobi secretarius & Turris Londinensis per 8 annos locum tenens postea vitam privatim & piissime degens usq. 77 annos obiit apud menerium suum de Battles Wood in com. Essexiæ. 21 die Octob. anno dom. 1623.

You that have place and charge from princes trust  
Whom honors may make thankful, not unjust.

Draw near and set your conscience and your care,  
 By this time-watch of State, whose minutes were  
 Religious thoughts ; whose howers heav'n's sacred food.  
 Whose hand still pointed to the kingdom's good  
 And sovereign's safety, whom ambition's key  
 Never wound up guiltines, bride, or fee.  
 Zeal only and a conscience cleare and even  
 Rais'd him on earth, and woon'd him up to heav'n.

### In English thus :

Sir William Wead, knight, son of Armigild, secretary to the lady Elizabeth's privy council many years ; sent, *once* to the emperor Rodolphus and to Philip king of Spain, and to Henry the third, king of France, *thrice* to Henry the fourth of France and Navarre, and *once* to Mary queen of Scotland, on various affairs of the greatest importance ; commissary general of England, and superintendent of the soldiery in Ireland, and also secretary to the privy council of our most serene lord king James ; and lieutenant of the Tower of London eight years ; afterwards living privately and religiously 'till his 77th year, died, at his manor of Battleswood in the county of Essex, on the 21st day of October, in the year of our lord 1623.

### MANUDEN VICARAGE.

#### INCUMBENT.

Thomas Bull, B. A.

1769.

#### PATRON.

Samuel Southouse, esq.

#### CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£ 40 0 0

#### TENTHS.

£ 1 8 0

FERNHAM

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## FERNHAM or FARNHAM.

**T**HIS parish adjoins to the south side of the one last described, and is the most southerly part of this half hundred of Clavering, joining to Bishop's Stortford and Hadham in Hertfordshire; great part of the earl of Essex's park lying in this parish. The vill is small but pleasant, and the soil in general very good. At the time of the general survey part of this parish belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville, and part to Robert Gernon. Afterwards it came to be divided into these three manors; namely, the manor of Fernham or Earl's-bury; that of Wakefares, and the manor of Hertisham.

The mansion-house of the first-named manor stands south-west from the church, and is the part which belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville, who obtained it by encroachment upon the king. His son William succeeded him herein, and his son Geoffrey was his successor. Maud, sister and heir of William de Mandeville brought it in marriage to her husband Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex. Humphry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, the sixth in descent from him, left two daughters, coheirs, one of whom, (Elianor) married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and the other (Mary) to Henry earl of Derby, afterwards king

king Henry IV. The first-named had this manor, and at her death left three daughters, the eldest of which (Anne) at length became sole heir. She had three husbands, Thomas and Edmund, earl of Stafford, and William Bourchier, earl of Eu; which two last husbands enjoyed this estate in her right. In 1421, upon the partition of the Bohun estates, this manor (being then valued at nineteen pounds yearly) was allotted to king Henry V. and annexed to the duchy of Lancaster. Margaret, queen of king Henry VI. had it in dower. In June, 1509, king Henry VIII. granted this manor, amongst others, under the seal of the duchy of Lancaster, to his first queen Catharine of Arragon, in satisfaction of dower. He conferred it afterwards, in 1547, upon Robert Chester. In 1577 queen Elizabeth let it for a fine and some yearly rent to Edward Elliott. She afterwards, in 1594, let it to James Quarles, clerk of her kitchen, for thirty-one years, at the yearly rent of twenty-one pounds. King James, in January 1603, by letters patent under the great seal and under the seal of the duchy of Lancaster, granted the perpetuity of this manor to John Erskine, earl of Marr, who in August, 1610, sold it to Peter Vanlore, of London, merchant; and he parted with it to Robert Yonge and Thomas Thompson; the former of whom sold his share to the latter, who together with his son Thomas, did, in November 1651, alineate this estate to Richard Hale, who had for his successor his grandson Richard Hale, M. D. who was afterwards physician to Bethlehem and Bridewell hospitals.

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hospitals. His widow enjoyed it after him, and it now belongs to Thomas Towers, esq.

The manor of WALKFARES, or WALKERS, was taken out of Mandeville's grand manor of Farnham, and on that account holden of the honor of Mandeville. Ralph, son of Richard Farnham, held it in the reign of king Henry III. It appears to have been afterwards in Lovel; for in 1256 Gunnora, widow of William Lovel, sued Juliana prioress of Holywell, for eight acres of land in Farnham, with appertenances, which the said Gunnora claimed as a reasonable dower out of her late husband's free tenement at Farnham. It does not appear that the said nunnery of Holywell had any thing here: if Lovel gave them land, the grant might be insufficient for want of Gunnora's consent. It was afterwards in Walter Arden, and the families of Walkefere, Eliot, Haynes, Halton, Meade, Gill, and Hale; and is now in Thomas Towers, esq.\*

The manor of HERTISHO-BURY has a mansion a little distance south from the church. This manor, which extends into part of Bishops-Stortford parish, belonged to Robert Gernon at the time of the conqueror's survey, and was for a considerable time in his descendents; after whom the family of Att Lee, or De la Lee enjoyed it; from which family it passed by marriage to John Barlee, who was succeeded

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\* This manor pays forty shillings yearly to the poor of this parish; the like sum yearly to the poor of Bishops-Stortford; and twenty shillings to London Bridge; the gift of Rowland Elliot, esq.

herein by the Leventhorp family; for a considerable time past it has been in the Glascock family, and it still remains there.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was not appendant to the manor, but in the gift of the noble family of De Vere, earls of Oxford, from the year 1386 to 1545. Afterwards it was in divers patrons, (undoubtedly by purchase) and in the beginning of this century in John Poole, gent. of whom Dr. Hale bought the advowson, and gave it to Trinity College in Oxford, of which he had been a member, and in their disposal it hath continued ever since.\*

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands a considerable way distant from any house: church and chancel are of one pace, tiled: at the west end is a tower containing five bells.

In the chancel, upon the ground, is a stone in memory of William Glascock, esq. who died 23 March, 1690.

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\* 'To this living was admitted, in 1634, William Sedgwick, who wrote sermons and many state pieces, and who, from his enthusiastic prophecies was called Domesday Sedgwick.' Wood's Athen. Oxon. vol. ii. p. 335.

'One of his disciples went about the diocese of Ely, where Sedgwick had first made the people mad, foretelling the end of the world to be in a few days. Peter Gunning, the bishop, hearing that no persuasions would take him off, sent for him, and offered him for a small estate he had, two years purchase, which he refused as not enough. It was however so plain a proof that he did not believe himself what he taught, that the long-eared rout deserted him.' Salmon's Hist. of Essex, p. 160.

In a mural monument against the east wall is the following :

Here lyeth the body of Henry Lilley Rouge-Dragon one of his majesty's officers at arms who departed this life 19 August 1638.

When Dr. Salmon reviewed this parish between forty and fifty years ago, the story of St. Catherine was depicted in one of the windows of the church; here was likewise a stone in the middle of the church, with an epitaph thereon for John Gaal, to whom queen Margaret granted a term in Earls-bury; neither of which are now to be seen.

### FERNHAM RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Nathan. Gearing, D. D. Trinity College, Oxford,  
1756.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS:

£. 23 8 9

£. 2 6 10½

T H E

H U N D R E D.

O F

D U N M O W

**H**ATH on the north the hundred of Uttlesford and Freshwell: on the west Uttlesford, Harlow, and Ongar; on the east those of Hinckford and Chelmsford; it's southern point runs out between those of Ongar and Chelmsford. It is long and narrow, being in length about twenty miles, and not above eight in breadth, where broadest. It derives it's name from the town of Dunmow, which also gives name to the deanry; and as to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, it is within the archdeaconry of Middlesex.

This hundred is in the disposal of the sheriff of Essex for the time being; though the bailiffs are seldom changed, unless it is for abuses offered or committed.

In

142 DUNMOW HUNDRED.

In this hundred are twenty-six parishes, namely;

P A R I S H E S.

Dunmow Great	Mashbury
Dunmow Little	Canfield Great
Easton Little	Canfield Little
Easton Great	Roding High
Tiltey	——- Eytrop
Thaxted	——- White
Lindfell	——- Morell
• Chickney	——- Leaden
Broxted	——- Margaret
Barnstone	——- Berners
Pleshey	Shellow Bowells
High Estre	Willingale Dou
Good Estre	Willingale Spain.

D U N M O W.

**H**ERE are two contiguous parishes of this name, distinguished from each other by the appellation of *Great* and *Little*; the former of which being the chief town in this hundred, we shall describe it first.

G R E A T D U N M O W.

THE name of this place, (which gives name to the hundred) is, (says Dr. Salmon,) ‘Saxon, and we need go no farther than that language for the meaning of it. To me it seems compounded of

‘two



‘two words *Mow* and *Dun*, either of which might  
 ‘be placed first. Let it be remembered that it stands  
 ‘upon the Roman way, as we have traced it from  
 ‘London to Colchester, \* being a continuation from  
 ‘*Stanes-Street* to *Staniway*. *Dun* signifies *high*, and  
 ‘*mow* a *heap*, as we still use the word for corn and  
 ‘hay; these together express a causeway or highway,  
 ‘where the road is raised above the level; in War-  
 ‘wickshire and other counties called the *ridgeway*.’  
 Camden has derived this name from two old Celtic  
 words, *dunum*, a dry gravelly hill, and *magus* a town;  
 and places here the old Roman station or city, *Cæsa-*  
*romagus*; but this opinion Mr. Salmon endeavours to  
 prove erroneous, by placing that station at Braugh-  
 ing in Hertfordshire; and Mr. Morant calls it an  
 ill-grounded notion, and places *Cæsaromagus* about  
 Writtle or Chelmsford: which of these learned histo-  
 rians are right, we will not take upon us to determine.  
 This town, which consists principally of two streets,  
 stands pleasantly upon a hill, in a good and healthy  
 country; it is distant from London about thirty-seven  
 miles, from Chelmsford thirteen, from Bishops-Stort-  
 ford nine, from Thaxted seven, and from Saffron-  
 Walden fourteen; but being no great thoroughfare,  
 hath but a slender trade. The buildings are in gene-  
 ral pretty neat, but small, except those belonging to  
 Sir George Beaumont, Mr. Bridge, Mr. Raynor, and  
 Mr. Sims. A market was granted here in 1253 to  
 John de Berners by king Henry III. and is held

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\* See the account of Cheping Ongar.

544 DUNMOW HUNDRED.

weekly on Saturdays; the market-cross, as it is called, stands in the center of the town, and is a very ancient building, as appears from the following inscription thereon :

Willeame Stward, Bayliffe,

1578.

Wyllyame Swetinge 1578.

Thomas Swetinge Carpenter

Repaired and painted by Smeeth Raynor, Bailiff,

Anno 1761.

Over-against the market cross is a guild-hall, in which the town officers meet to transact the corporation business. A manufacture for bays and blankets is carried on here, in which the poor are chiefly employed. By letters patent 16 February 2 and 3 of Philip and Mary, the inhabitants were incorporated by the name of the bayliff and burgessees of the borough of Great Dunmow; the burgessees are thirteen in number\*, out of which a bayliff is chosen; and to whom the market-house and toll of the fairs belong. The fairs, which are two yearly, are for toys only, and are held, the one on the 6th of May; the other on the 8th of November. The roads, around this place, are in general pretty good, and of late

\* The present burgessees are as follows :

JOHN LONGWORTHY, Esq. Bailiff.

Gregory Perry, gent  
Smeeth Rayner, gent.  
Henry Ruff, gent.  
Mr. Henry Jones,  
Mr. John Wasket,  
Mr. John Hostage,

Mr. William Shepherd  
Mr. William Longworthy  
Mr. Thomas Smith  
Mr. John Parsons  
Mr. Benjamin Foakes  
Mr. James Skrubby.

those

those leading to Chelmsford and Bishops-Stortford have been made turnpike.

The parish of Dunmow is large, but the extent of it's bounds not easily ascertained : it is well watered by the river Chelmer, and those lands lying near the river are principally very fine meadow ; throughout the whole parish the soil is remarkably good, and for the growth of corn little inferior to any in the county. The manors, or reputed manors herein are those of Great Dunmow, Marks, Newton-hall and Mynchons ; Shingle-hall or Olives, Martels, and Bigods.

The first-named of these manors has a mansion belonging thereto, called the Folly, distance from the church about a mile southward, and had formerly belonging thereto a park. Part of this manor, at the time of the conqueror's survey, belonged to Richard son of earl Gislebert, and Humo Dapifer, sewer to the conqueror ; in the last of whom it seems to have centured. He left his inheritance to Mabel, who was married to Robert earl of Gloucester, natural son to king Henry I. from whom, by marriage, it became incorporated into the Clare family, wherein it continued till the honors of Gloucester and Clare were united to the dutchy of Lancaster, since when, the families upon record who have possessed it, are those of Fitz Richard, Fitz-William, and Fitz-Simon. It afterwards came by marriage to Lionel duke of Clarence, third son of king Edward III. at his death (in 1368) his daughter Philippe, was his

sole heir. She afterwards married to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, whose son Roger succeeded him herein, and at his death had for a successor his son Edmund, whose successor was his sister Anne, wife of Richard de Coningsburgh, brother of Edmund duke of York, by whom she had Richard duke of York, father of king Edward IV. In 1509 king Henry VIII. gave this manor to his queen, Catherine of Arragon, in dower: in 1550 king Edward VI. granted it to William marquis of Northampton; after whom Sir Richard Weston is found to have possessed it, and he was succeeded herein by his grandson Richard earl of Portsmouth, whose son Jerome inherited after him. William, the first lord Maynard, bought it in fee farm, from whom it hath descended to the present owner Charles lord Maynard.

DUNMOW-PARK lies at the brook on the right hand side of the road going to Braintree; the house was called the Lodge.

The manor of MARKS hath a mansion house about a mile north-east of the church: it took it's name from the family de March, which family hath given name to several estates in this county: this family was succeeded herein by that of Ferrers, after which the Milborn family enjoyed it, and were succeeded by that of Hallet; James Hallet, esq. is the present owner.

NEWTON-HALL stands near a mile west of the church, and at the time of the conqueror's survey was holden by Geoffrey de Magnaville. The different

ferent possessors of this estate, upon record, are the families of Bernors, Gysors, Goldington, Kymwol-marsh, Gosnold, Deards, Dyer, and Henneker; in which last family it remains, being at present belonging to John Henneker, esq.

The manor of SHINGLE-HALL, or OLIVES hath a mansion standing about a mile and a half south from the church: the owners of this manor are not regularly handed down to us; but those upon record are the families of Glyne, Joselyn, Jennings, and Parker; in which last it remains, being the property of John Aston Parker, esq.

The manor of MARTELLS is on the right hand side of the road leading from the town to the church; the mansion is about a mile and a quarter from the church. The owners of this estate, which are upon record, are only the families of Martel, Smith, Stane, and Chamberlain, in which last it continues, and is the property of Stane Chamberlain, esq. of Hatfield Broad Oak.

The manor of BIGODS or ALFERESTUNE hath a mansion about a mile north north-east from the church; there hath been near it a church or chapel, from which a field is still called Chapel-field. This manor was formerly a hamlet belonging to Great Dunmow parish. It took the name of Bigod from an ancient owner, as likewise it did that of Alferestune. At the time of the general survey this estate belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville; since when the families who have possessed it are those of Burgo, Bygod,



Dorewood, Fox, Hotoft, and Jenour. In 1763 this estate was purchased by the present owner Michael Pepper, of Stansted-Hele, a rich merchant, who hath also Lower-hall in this parish.

In this parish is likewise a manor or reputed manor called SOUTH-HALL, or SOFT-HALL, the mansion of which stands above a mile south from the church. This estate in 1389 was given to the priory of Little Dunmow by Robert Riketon, Robert Knarchbole, Thomas Houlet, and John Eleyne, Clerk. No record plainly shews who enjoyed this estate after the dissolution; but it may be presumed that it was the noble family of Ratcliffe earls of Suffex: for Clopton-hall, which was another name for this estate, or a part of it, was granted, amongst the rest of the priory's possessions to Robert earl of Suffex. The lord Petre possessed it in 1634. It belongs now to the drapers company, being purchased with part of the money left by Mr. Bencraft, founder of the almshouses at Mile end.

At Marks-hill in this parish, some Roman coins have been found, which is a small evidence that hereabouts was a villa upon the Roman road from Colchester to Bishops-Stortford.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

A house and land at Cutler's-green, of 12l. 10s. a year were purchased by this parish, and the rents applied at the discretion of the church-wardens and overseers.

Four

Four houses and lands in this parish, (amounting to about 15l. a year) are for the reparation of the church.

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

Anciently this was a rectory, indeed a sinecure, and the rector presented to the vicarage. The patronage of the rectory was in the duke of Clarence, and afterwards in the Mortimers earls of March, till about the year 1479, when the rectory was appropriated to the dean and chapter of the collegiate church of Stoke near Clare. From that time the bishop of London and the canons alternately presented the vicar till the dissolution. In 1554 and 1559 the bishop of London alone presented, as have his successors ever since. Queen Elizabeth, in 1590, granted the rectory of Great Dunmow, which is a manor, to John Aylmer, bishop of London, and his successors for ever. It was leased to Sir George Beaumont, which lease is in trustees for his son, Sir George, a minor. The parsonage house stands in a field near the common going to Little Easton.

In 1678, Bishop Compton endowed this vicarage with six pounds a year.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, stands near a mile north from the main street, in a bottom, where it is naturally supposed the chief part of the town formerly stood. It is a large neat building, both in the inside and the outside, and consists of a spacious middle pace, and two handsome ayshes; the chancel

chancel is very large, hath a south ayfle, and a vestry on the north side, all leaded. Over the south door of the church is a gallery belonging to the Henneker family: the partition which separates the church and chancel is very neat. At the west end is a large and lofty tower, embattled, containing six bells. About the door of this tower, on the outside, are thirteen shields, some of the arms well known, being those of England, Mortimer, Bohun, Bouchier, Baybroke, Lovin, Coggeshall, Quincey, and Bernard; which great men had probably been one time or other contributors to the building or repair of this considerable church, which was the head of the deanry of Dunmow.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a neat mural monument for Sir John Swynnerton Dyer, bart. late of Newton-hall in this parish, who died 17 May, 1701.

Upon the ground in the chancel is a tomb-stone with an epitaph for

Anne, late lady of Sir Swynnerton Dyer, bart. who died Aug. 21, 1714, aged 33; and for her husband who died May 30, 1727, aged 58.

A tomb of black marble and free stone is placed against the north wall of the chancel; upon the upper part of it is engraved,

Venimus,  
Vidimus,  
Redivimus,  
Resurgamus,

The

The translation of which into English is: we came, we saw, we returned, we shall rise again.

Upon a black marble tomb, on it's south side, is as follows :

Here lieth the body of Elenor late wife of Charles Jennyns, who died May 9, 1645.

Upon the floor of the chancel, within the communion rails, is an epitaph for

Charles, the son of Sir George Beaumont, bart. who died in Sept. 1757. Also William Beaumont, who died in 1758. Both infants.

Upon the chancel floor is an epitaph for each of the following persons :

James, the only son of James Palmer, of Leicester, gent. who died August 17, 1681.

Mr. Thomas Beaumont, second son of Sir Thomas Beaumont of Stoughton-grange in Leicestershire, bart. He married Susannah, daughter of William Oldys, D. D\*. vicar of Alderbury in Oxfordshire, by whom he had four sons and two daughters. He died Jan. 15, 1710, aged 71.

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\* This Dr. Oldys, who was father to the famous civilian of that name, is mentioned by David Lloyd, Anthony Wood, and Dr. Walker [in the Lives of the Loyalists, Athen. Oxon. Sufferings of the Clergy] He was returning from Oxford, where he had been to admit his son, and fearing he should fall into the hands of the parliament soldiers, ordered his servant to ride at some distance before him, and, if he saw any of them, to drop his handkerchief as a signal for him to go back to the garrison of Oxford, or Banbury: the man dropped the handkerchief, which his master passed without seeing. As soon as he perceived the enemy he turned about, but his malignant horse would not leave his road, so he was shot through the back.

In

In the middle pace of the church is this inscription:

Claudit Huthersuli corpus lapis iste Johannis. Quem sacrum in  
Thalamo Martha relicta dedit. Ob. 3 die Dec. A. D. 1604, æt. 33.

In English thus:

This stone covers the body of John Huthersall, which sacred person Martha his relict took to her bed.—He died December 3, in the year of our Lord 1604, aged 33.

On another stone in the middle pace of the church is an epitaph for

John Calthorp, gen. who died in 1646.

In the north ayfle, upon a stone, is the following epitaph almost obliterated:

Here lieth the body of Richard Deerds, of Newton-hall, gent. who died 28 April 1635, and of his son Thomas, who died the 2d of May following.

This, according to Mr. Falconer's account, was removed from the chancel to make way for Sir John Dyers.

Upon a mural monument against the north wall is an epitaph for

Thomas Wasket, of Barnston-hall, who died in the year 1738, aged 92, and of his son Thomas, of the same place, who died in 1750, aged 62. And also of John Wasket, late of the same place, who died June 21, 1758, aged 60.

In the chapel, against the east wall, is an epitaph for

Mary, daughter of John Wiseman, of Poyear in Northamptonshire, esq. late wife of Thomas Cullum, by whom she had issue 7 sons and four daughters; of which four sons ly here also. She died in childbed Aug. 31, 1660, aged 31.

Upon



Upon the ground is an epitaph for

Mr. Robert Hafelfoot, surgeon, who died June 12, 1748, aged

## G R E A T   D U N M O W   V I C A R A G E .

I N C U M B E N T .

P A T R O N .

John Mangey, M. A.

Bishop of London.

1754.

V A L U E   I N   T H E   K I N G ' S   B O O K S .

T E N T H S .

£. 18   13   4

£. 1   17   4

## L I T T L E   D U N M O W

L I E S east of Great Dunmow, bordering upon Felsted and Bernston : being distant from the town of Great Dunmow about two miles, from Chelmsford twelve, and from Braintree six : the parish is computed to measure in circumference twelve miles ; is of a good fertile soil, well watered by the Chelmer : the houses herein are but few, the vill is small, and husbandry and spinning the chief employ of the inhabitants. The lands in this parish, at the time of the general survey, were in Ralph Baynard, (frequently mentioned in the course of this history) whose grandson William forfeited it, amongst his other estates, for siding with Helias earl of Maine against king Henry I. which estates were given to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitz Gislebert, progenitor of the ancient earls of Clare ; from which

Vol. III. No. 29.                      U                      Robert

Robert descended the noble family of Fitzwalter. His posterity held this lordship after him for ten generations. It was afterwards in Sir Henry Mildmay of Moulsham, knt. then in Thomas May, esq. of whom it was purchased by Sir James Hallet, knt. in whose family it still continues, and is now the property of James Hallet, esq.

Amongst the jocular tenures of England, none have been more talked of than the BACON at DUNMOW. It does not appear who instituted this custom, but it is generally thought that it was one of the family of Fitzwalter. The prior and canons were obliged to deliver it to him who took the oath, by virtue, we may believe, of some injunction of a founder or benefactor, by which they held lands, rather than of their own singular frolic and wantonness: some persons conjecture that it was imposed by the crown either in Saxon or Norman times, and was a burthen upon the estate, as the same custom was at Wichenor in Staffordshire; and indeed this opinion is in a great measure justified from the entries in the register, where it is said the party was sworn ‘secundum Charte formam;’ and ‘secundum formam donationis;’ that is, according to the form of the Charter, or according to the form of the gift. The pilgrim, as he was upon this occasion stiled, was to kneel upon two sharp-pointed stones in the church-yard, (now lost,) and to perform a serious act in jest. The following is a correct copy of the oath, which he took before the prior and convent:

You

# LITTLE DUNMOW.

153

You shall swear, by custom of confession,  
That you ne'er made nuptial transgression;  
Nor since you were married Man and Wife,  
By household brawls or contentious strife,  
Or otherwise, in bed or at board,  
Offended each other in deed or in word;  
Or since the parish-clerk said Amen,  
Wished yourselves unmarried agen;  
Or in a Twelvemonth and a Day  
Repented not in Thought any way,  
But continued true in thought and desire  
As when you joined hands in holy Quire;  
If to these Conditions without all fear  
Of your own accord you will freely swear,  
A whole Gammon of Bacon you shall receive  
And bear it hence with love and good leave.  
For this is our Custom at Dunmow well known,  
Though the Pleasure be our's, the Bacon's your own.

It seems the oath was administered with such long process, and such solemn singing over the person whilst kneeling, as doubtless made his pilgrimage sufficiently painful.

Then the pilgrim was taken in a chair provided for that purpose (and still kept in the church) and carried first about the priory church-yard, and after through the town, with all the priory brethren, and townsfolk, with shouts and acclamations; with his Bacon borne before him, and sent home in the same manner.

In the chartulary, or register-book of this priory, now in the British Museum, there are entries and memorandums of persons that received the bacon at several times; namely, Richard Wright, of Bade-

burgh, near Norwich, yeoman, 27 April, 1445.— Stephen Samuel, of Little Easton husbandman, in 1467. Thomas Fuller of Coggeshall, 8 Sept. 1510.

Since the suppression of the priory this custom is still kept up, and the ceremony is performed at a court-baron for this manor, by the steward, of which the following are instances :

At a court-baron of Sir Thomas May, knt. holden 7 June, 1701, before Thomas Wheeler, gent. steward, the homage being five fair ladies, spinsters, namely, Elizabeth Beaumont, Henrietta Beaumont, Annabella Beaumont, Jane Beaumont, and Mary Wheeler; they found, that John Reynolds of Hatfield Broad oak, gent. and Ann his wife, and William Parsley of Great Easton, butcher, and his wife Jane, by means of their quiet and peaceable, tender and loving cohabitation for the space of three years last past and upwards, were fit and qualified persons to be admitted by the court to receive the ancient and accustomed oath, whereby to entitle themselves to have the bacon of Dunmow delivered to them according to the custom of the manor. Accordingly having taken the oath, kneeling on the two great stones near the church door, the bacon was delivered to each couple. — The last that received it were John Shakeshanks, woolconber, and Ann his wife, of Wethersfield, 20 June, 1751.— It is observeable, that the times at which the three last claims were made, were exactly fifty years a part from each other.





A Custom was instituted in or about the year 1111, by Rob<sup>t</sup> Son of Richard Fitz Gilbert, Earl of Clare, that if any married Couple would take the following Oath, kneeling upon two bare stones - within the Church Door, before the Prior & Brethren, they should have a Gammon of Bacon free - ly Delivered to them, which is done with great Solemnity. After which the Happy Pair, are taken upon mens Shoulders in a Chair, (kept for that Purpose) & Carried round the Side of the Priory, - from the Church to the House, with Drums, Minstrells & other Musick Playing, & the Gammon of Bacon Borne high on a Pole before them. Attended by the Steward, Gentlemen & Officers of the Mannor, with the several Inferior Tenants, Carrying wands &c. and a Jury of Bachelors & Maidens, (being Six of each Sex) Walking Two & Two, with a great Multitude of other People young & old, from all the Neighbouring Towns & Villages thereabouts, & several more that came from very great distances, (to the amount of many thousands in the whole) with Shouts & Acclamations following.

An Exact Pictive View of DUNMOW, late the Priory, in the County of ESSEX With a Representation of the Ceremony, & Procession in that Mannor, on Thursday the 20 of June 1751.

When Thos Shakeshaft of the Parish of Weathersfield, in the County aforesaid Weaver, & his Wife came to Demand, & did Actually receive a Gammon of Bacon Having first lft down upon two bare stones, within the Church door, & taken the said Oath, pursuant to the Antient Custom, in Manner & form prescribed as aforesaid.

NB. Before a Dissolution of Monasteries, It does not appear by Searching the most Antient Rec<sup>s</sup> to have been demanded above three times, & including this just as often since.

Javed from an Original Painting taken on the Spot by David Ogborne. - Published according to Act of Parliament Jan<sup>y</sup> 1752.





the Priory, in the County of ESSEX.  
Procession in that Mannor, on Thursday  
1751.

Weatherfield, in the County aforesaid  
Actually receive a Gammon of Bacon,  
from the Church door, & taken the said  
form prescribed as aforesaid.

not appear by searching the most  
images including this just as often since.

Spot by David Ogborne.

Jan 7 1752.

*You shall swear by the Custom of our Confession,  
That you never made any Nuptial Transgression;  
Since you were married. Man & Wife  
By Household Brawls or Contentious strife;  
Or otherwise in Bed or at Board,  
Offended each other in deed or in word;  
Or since the Parish Clerk said Amen  
Wished your selves unmarried Again;  
Or in a Twelve month and a day,  
Repented not in thought any way.*

### The Oath

*But Continued true and in Desire,  
As when you joyned Hands in holy Quire;  
If to these Conditions without all fear,  
Of your own accord you will freely swear,  
A Gammon of Bacon you shall receive,  
And bear it hence with Love & good Leave,  
For this is our Custom at Dunmow well known,  
Though the sport be ours the Bacon's your own.*

C. Mosley Sculp.



[The oath for the bacon at Whichenour is much more easily swallowed than this: and such may this one here taken at Dunmow have been, which the lord perhaps got thus modelled to save his bacon.

"Here ye Sir Philip de Somerville lord of Whichenour, mayntayner and gyver of this baconne, that I *A.* sith I wedded *B* my wyfe, and sith I hadd hyr in my kepyng and at my wyll by a yere and a day after our mariage, I wold not have chaunged for none other, farer ne fowler; rycher ne powier; ne for none other descended of gretter lynage; sleepeyng ne waakyng at noo tyme; and yf the sayd *B* were sole and I sole, I wold take her to be my wyfe before all the wymen of the worlde of what condicions foever they be, good or evylle, as help me God and his seyntes, and this flesh and all fleshes." In the margin of Blount's ancient tenures, the manner of providing and demanding the bacon flyke is said to be translated in king Henry VII's time from a roll of French of king Edward III's time. "The lord of Whichnor pays but half what others pay for a knights fee, and for scuage, orayde for knighting the king's eldest son, or marrying the king's eldest daughter, this lord shall pay but the moty of it that others shall paye." From hence it may be inferred, that this bacon tenure at Dunmow was originally from the crown.—It is observable, that this Whichenour flyke, which was to be "hanging in the hall ready arayed at all tymes of the yere. bott in Lent, to be given to everyche mane or womane married, after the day and yere of their marriage be past;" was also "to be given to everyche mane of religion, archbishop, prior, or other religious, and to everyche preest after the yere and day of their profession finished."]

The PRIORY here was founded in the year 1104 by Juga Baynard, sifter to Ralph Baynard. The church was consecrated by Maurice, bishop of London. The monastery, which is now entirely decayed, stood in a delightful situation. In this priory were maintained a prior, and ten or eleven canons regular

regular of St. Augustin. The estates belonging to this foundation were

Ten shillings yearly rent in Brandenham in Suffolk, the gift of Saer de Quinci; half a hide of land, the gift of the foundress; ten acres of arable, and half an acre of pasture, in Great Saling, the gift of Roger de Cantebrigg, in 1302; they had also the rectory of that church and advowson of the vicarage; the manors of Eastwic and Westwic in Burnham, and the rectory and advowson of the vicarage there; the rectory and advowson of the vicarage in Henham; a portion of tythes in Finchingfield; two parts of the tythes of the lordship of Norton; the tythes of the lordships of Pasfield and Packlesham; the tythes of all the land that was Ernald Blake's in Bernstone; two parts of the tythes of Essewell; and tenements in Clothale and Wallington in Hertfordshire; a marsh in Belton, a tenement in Posingworth; advowson of the church of Berton-Bendish in Suffolk; all the oblations in the chapel in this parish belonging to the earl Fitzwalter's house. The manor of South-hall, or Clopton, &c.

At the suppression the yearly income was 15*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* according to Dugdale; but Mr. Speed says it was 173*l.* 2*s.* 4*d.* Foundations of the old buildings were lately visible on the south-west side of the church. The present manor-house stands where the offices of the priory were.

Besides those estates particularised above, there belonged likewise to this priory a manor, or reputed manor in this parish, as appears by the letters patent of king Henry VIII. wherein he granted to Robert earl of Suffex, and his heirs, the site of the priory of Dunmow. The manors of Dunmow Parva and Clopton, with appertenances; and the rectories and advowsons of the vicarages of Little Dunmow, Henham, Old Saling, and Burnham; Rakewoods in Little Dunmow, and New-bought lands; a water mill called

Brome-

Brome-mill; lands called Bergholts in Tollethunt; a messuage and land in Great Dunmow called Bumpsted. This estate was sold by Edward earl of Suffex to Sir Henry Mildmay, of Moulsham, knt.

The manor, in particular, known by the name of PRIORY PLACE, or of *Little Dunmow*, late the priory, came, soon after the restoration, into the hands of Sir William Wyld, knt. and bart.\* who dying in Nov: 1679, was succeeded by his son Felix, whose sister and heir brought it in marriage to John Cockman, M. D. and his only daughter married to Nicholas Tooke, esq. and it now belongs to John Tooke, esq.

The collegiate church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was a large stately fabric, the roof sustained with rows of pillars of the Tuscan order, of which some remain. The part which makes the parish church, is the east end of the choir, with the north aisle. This church was for the use of the parish as well as the convent. The prior and convent presented one of their body to the bishop to serve the cure, but he was not instituted as into a rectory or vicarage. Since the suppression it is only a donative or curacy in the gift of the lord of the manor, and now of James Hallet, esq.

The church, in it's present state, is in a ruinous condition, and with the chancel, hath a north aisle

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\* Sir William was recorder of the city of London; in 1663 was made one of the justices of the common-pleas; and in January 1672, one of the justices of the king's-bench. He had also the chief estate in the adjoining parish of Bernstone.

leaded;

leaded; at the west end, in a small belfry, hangs one bell only.

Here were buried several of the family of Fitz-walter. Walter, the first of the name, son of Robert, died in 1198, and was buried with one of his wives, in the choir of Dunmow, under a tomb of marble, part of which is now to be seen: their effigies at full length lie loose upon a heap of bricks and rubbish, in a much decayed state. The tomb has been removed to the south wall, and was much injured by the workmen. "Robert the second, his son, lies buried before the high altar in the priory of Dunmow; he died in 1234. Walter, second son of Robert, died in 1259, and was buried in the conventual church of Dunmow. Walter lord Fitzwalter, last male of this house, was buried in this church under an arch in the wall, near the body of his mother: he died in 1432." Dugd. Bar. vol. i. p. 218.

Between two pillars on the north of the choir, lies, in a ruinous condition, the figure of the fair Matilda, daughter of the second Robert Fitz-walter, concerning whom a fine story hath been invented by the monks of this convent. The substance of it is, that king John coveting this fair and precious lady, and her father not consenting to his unlawful desires, that occasioned a war between him and his barons. And the latter being received into the city of London, did the king and his friends a great deal of mischief: as on the other hand, the king destroyed principally Baynard's castle, and seized the other castles and te-

nements



ments of the barons. Whereupon Robert Fitzwalter, Roger Fitz-Robert, and Richard de Montfichet crossed the sea, and went to invite the king of France to come and revenge their quarrel. Matilda abode in the mean time at Dunmow, where a messenger came to her, under pretence of love, and because she would not consent, poisoned all her liquors, and so she died. Other stories say, she was poisoned in an egg cooked up for her by the messenger. The king of France began to ravage England, but a truce being made by the two kings, Robert Fitzwalter, who had been forced to fly the realm, whose estate had been seized and his castle demolished, was restored to king John's favor for his knightly achievements and strength of body in vanquishing an English knight at a tournament in France, before the kings of England and France; between whom a peace was made through Robert's mediation. And afterwards the said Robert and the two barons above-mentioned, staid always with king John. This story is generally supposed to be a fiction, fabricated by the monks in favour of their patron Robert Fitzwalter, partly to excuse his rashness and folly, in being one of the ringleaders in stirring up the king of France to come and invade this kingdom.

On the north wall of the chancel is an elegant mural monument, having thereupon a feminine figure of grief holding a bust in profile, inscribed

Sir JAMES HALLET, knt.

In memory of the persons here named, whose bodies are interred in an adjacent vault, this monument is piously erected :

Sir James Hallet, knt. died Jan. 31, 1703. aged 76.

Dame Mary Hallet his wife, Oct. 19, 1720, aged 72.

James Hallet, esq. his son, Nov. 16, 1723, aged 38.

Ambrose Hallet, his grandson, July 28, 1732, aged 20.

Mary, wife of James the son, Feb. 8, 1755, aged 67.

John Hallet, esq. son of James, Feb. 19, 1765, aged 49.

James Hallet, esq. son of James, Ap. 6, 1766, aged 56.

Mary, wife of last James Hallet, esq. Oct. 6, 1767, aged 46.

Upon a stone on the ground in the chancel is an epitaph for

John Wylde esq. the first son of Sir William Wylde, knt. and bart. (one of his maj. serj. at law, and recorder of the citie of London) by his lady Frances Wylde daughter of John Berecroft, of Chard in Somersetsh. who being brought here for a private apartment during the raging pestilence at London, died Oct. 8, 1665, aged about 9 months.

### LITTLE DUNMOW DONATIVE.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Benj. Shields, M. A.

James Hallett, esq.

1762.

### E A S T O N.

**H**ERE are two parishes of this name in Dunmow hundred, contiguous, and lying north-west from Dunmow; which are distinguished from each

each other by the appellations of *Great* and *Little*; which last-named parish being nearest to Dunmow, we shall describe it first.

## LITTLE EASTON.

STANDS upon the river Chelmer, between Thaxted and Dunmow, about two miles distant from the town of the latter and five from that of the former; from Stebbing it is also distant five miles. It is a pleasant spot, luxuriant in it's soil, and healthy in it's situation: its inhabitants are chiefly supported by husbandry, and the munificence of Charles lord Maynard, whose seat lies herein.—We shall not pretend to say from whence the name is derived, as the most learned historians have much puzzled themselves about it to little or no purpose.

At the time of the conqueror's survey, the lands here were holden by Geffrey de Mandeville, and William de Waren. In William the first's reign they were held of the honor of Windsor castle by a family surnamed de Windsor, which was succeeded herein by Robert de Hastings, whose daughter and heir Delicia married to Henry de Cornhyll, then to Godfrey,\* surnamed de Lovain, a valiant knight, brother

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\* His father was Henry duke of Brabant, who married Maud, daughter of Matthew, earl of Bologne. From Godfrey of Lovaine, surnamed Barbatus, or the Bearded, because he had made a vow never to cut off his beard till he had added to his dominions the dutchy of Loraine, are derived some of the best families in Europe. The late earl of Hertford, as son to the late duchess of Somerset, had a right to name him among his illustrious ancestors, and

brother to Henry duke of Brabant, and his lieutenant of the honor of Eye in Suffolk. Matthew, son and heir to the latter, succeeded to this estate, and had for a successor his son Thomas, who dying in 1345 was succeeded by his son John, whose whole estate devolved to his daughter Alianore, who brought her considerable inheritance in marriage to Sir William Bourgher, or Bouchier, who dying in 1420, was succeeded by his son Henry, earl of Eu, afterwards created earl of Essex, whose eldest son William lies buried in this church. Henry, his grandson and successor, being killed by a fall from his horse, left an only daughter and heir, Anne, married to Sir William Parr, who alienated this manor to Sir William Wriothesley, afterwards lord chancellor of England. It was afterwards in the Throgmorton family. Queen Elizabeth, in the thirty-second year of her reign, granted it to Henry Maynard, esq. to be holden *in capite* by the 20th part of a knights fee, and payment of ward silver to Windsor castle.

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consequently to make good his pretensions to a descent from Charlemagne, as well by him as by Jocelin of Lovaine. And not only the earl of Hertford, but also his lady, and indeed all the posterity of the late lady Weymouth have a just claim to the same honour by their extraction from the Devereuxes earls of Essex, who drew their blood from the Bouchiers earls of Essex, that married the heiress of the Baron of Lovaine. Concerning the descent of the Piercys from Charlemagne we have the testimony of Mr. Camden in his Britannia. From Godfrey's elder brother Henry V. duke of Lorraine, the present Landgrave of Hesse is descended. The last of the male line of Charlemagne was Charles duke of Lorraine, son of Louis IV. king of France, called Outremer, and right heir to the crown of France after the death of his nephew Louis V.

The

The family of Maynard was early seated in Kent. Nicholas Maynard, of Brixton in the last mentioned county, had two wives, and by each of them a son named John\*, the younger of which was seated at St. Albans in Hertfordshire, and steward of that borough for life, which he represented in the parliament that met in 1553, and was one of those thirty-nine members who absented themselves from the house rather than join in admitting the pope's authority into this realm. He died in 1556, and was buried at the church of St. Michael in St. Albans; having had two wives; namely, Margaret, daughter of Ralph Rowlet, of St. Albans and Sandridge, esq. sister and coheir of Sir Ralph Rowlet, by whom he had Ralph and two daughters: and Dorothy, daughter of Robert Perrot, esq. widow of John Bridge, and by her he had Henry; Robert that died unmarried, and Dorothy, married to Sir Thomas Clerk, of Pleshy, one of the barons of the Exchequer. Henry, the first of this family that became settled here, was secretary to the famous Sir William Burleigh; he was representative in parliament for the borough of St. Albans in 1586, 1588, and 1597: also for the county of Essex in 1601, and served the office of Sheriff in 1603, in which year he received the honor of knighthood from king James I. By his lady, Susannah, daughter and one of the coheirs of Thomas Pierfon, esq. gentleman-usher of the Star-chamber, he had

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\* It was common in those days to have two or more children of the same name.



eight sons; William his successor; John, made knight of the Bath at the coronation of king Charles I. who married Mary, daughter of Sir Thomas Middleton, of Stansted Montfichet in this county; Charles, one of the auditors of the exchequer, (from whom is descended the present Sir William Maynard, bart.) Francis, and two others that survived him: also two daughters, Elizabeth, wife of Sir Edward Bainton, of Bromham in Wiltshire, and Mary, who died unmarried. He died in May, 1610, and was succeeded by his eldest son Sir William Maynard, knt. who was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, where he founded a logic professor, with a yearly salary. In 1611 he was created a baronet; in 1620 king James I. created him baron Maynard, of Wicklow in Ireland; and in 1627 king Charles I. advanced him to the degree of a baron of this realm, by the title of baron Maynard, of Estaines parva, otherwise Estaines ad Turrin and Little Easton. His lordship departing this life in December, 1640, was buried near his father in this church. By his first wife, Frances, sole daughter of William Cavendish, (the first earl of Devonshire of that family) which died in September 1613, in the 20th year of her age, he had one daughter Anne. To his second wife he had Anne, daughter and heir to Sir Anthony Everard of Great Waltham, knt. by her he had, William, the only son that survived him; and five daughters, Susan and Jane both which died unmarried; Anne that became the wife of Sir Henry Wrothe of Durance

rance in Endfield, Middlesex, knt. Elizabeth, married to John Wrothe, of Loughton in this county, esq. and Mary to Sir Ralph Bovey, of Coxston and Langston in Cambridgehire, knt. William the second lord Maynard, born in 1622, was one of those truly worthy patriots, who did not run headlong with the incendiaries in the last century, but were for taking proper measures to deliver this nation from the tyranny of the army, and for restoring peace to those distracted kingdoms; for which he, and the rest of those patriots, were impeached of high treason in September 1647.\* In consideration of his many signal services, he was appointed of the privy council, and comptroller of the household both to king Charles II. and king James II. and custos rotulorum of this county. His lordship died on February 3, 1696, aged 76, having had two wives; first, Dorothy

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\* A copy of the articles of their impeachment is in the possession of the present right honourable the lord Maynard, who hath also an original letter of king Charles II. to the said William lord Maynard his ancestor. This letter shews how great a share he had in the restoration, and is as follows:

“ Brussels, March 16 1660.

“ Your of the 13 of January came not to me till within these 3 or 4 dayes,  
 “ otherwise you should have knowne sooner that it was very welcome to me,  
 “ and I do assure you ther is no man upon whose affection and unbyassed resolutions to serve me, I do look with more confidence, then upon yours,  
 “ and therefore you may reasonably presume, that my kindnesse to you is  
 “ proportionable. I hope it will not be long before I shall have a good occasion to manifest it, without prejudice to you, and in the meane time,  
 “ that will vse your interest all ways, to make preparations accordingly; and  
 “ you beleieve that I do enough long for the good hower that I may let you  
 “ know how much I am

“ Your very affectionate friend,

“ Charles R.”

daughter

daughter and sole heir of Sir Robert Banastre, of Passenham in Northamptonshire, knt. secondly, Margaret, daughter of James Murray, earl of Dysart. By the first lady he had Banastre; and William, father of Thomas, and Prescot, Maynard, esqrs. By his second lady he had Henry; and Elizabeth, married to Sir Thomas Brograve of Hamels in Hertfordshire, bart. Banastre, his eldest son and successor, married Elizabeth, only daughter to Henry de Grey, earl of Kent, and by her had eight sons and three daughters. His lordship died March 4, 1717, aged 76. His sons were, William, Banastre, Henry, Anthony, Robert, Grey, and Charles. The three daughters were, Arrabella, married to William Lowther of Swillington in Yorkshire, esq. Dorothy to Robert Heslridge, esq. of Noseley, in Leicestershire, and Elizabeth; who died single. Henry, the eldest surviving son, succeeded his father in title and estate, and dying unmarried December 7, 1742, was succeeded by his next brother Grey, lord Maynard, who dying also unmarried April 27, 1745, had for his successor his youngest brother Charles, the present lord Maynard.\*

EASTON-LODGE, (the seat of the present lord Maynard, a small distance north-west from the church) is an ancient, stately, and convenient edifice. It stands high, and hath a beautiful northern prospect, of which the capital point in view is the noble church

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\* Other particulars relative to this family may be seen in the monumental inscriptions at the end of our account of this parish.

and spire of Thaxted : and within that view are included the four churches in his lordship's gift, with a considerable part of his demesnes. Around it is a large park, gardens, canals, serpentine walks, shrubberies, and various other useful ornaments, conducive to the rendering it a very pleasant and agreeable residence : adjoining to the east end of this chearfui seat is a very neat chapel built by William lord Maynard in the year 1621 : at the east end of the chapel is a beautiful window of painted glass in six compartments, representing the birth of Jesus Christ ; the adoration of him by the wise men ; Judas betraying him ; his crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension. This chapel hath, from the time of it's first erection, been all along put to it's proper religious use, by the several pious exemplary owners.

The parsonage house was handsomely rebuilt by the rev. John Pynsent, late rector of this parish, and now of Great Easton.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Dame Margaret Banastre, widow of Sir Robert Banastre, by a codicil to her will, dated the 3d of October, 1662, gave out of her personal estate twenty pounds yearly for the maintenance of four poor women of the parish of Little Easton, in the county of Essex, five pounds to be paid yearly to each of them by quarterly payments, and ordered lands to be purchased for that purpose ; in compliance with which will, her grandson Banastre lord Maynard, purchased

lands both freehold and copyhold in Magdalen and High Laver, and settled the payment of twenty pounds yearly, by quarterly payments, as a provision for these women, clear of all taxes and charges whatsoever: he built likewise houses for their habitation, and ordered them to be kept in repair by money arising from the said farm, &c. The women are to be nominated and appointed by his heirs.

A messuage, with appertenances, hath been settled for ever upon the church clerk of this parish, and his successors in office, by the present Charles lord Maynard; to be at all times kept in sufficient repair at the proper cost and charges of the said Charles lord Maynard, his heirs and assigns, owners of the manor of Little Easton. The like hath been done by his lordship at his parishes of Great Easton and Tiltey.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The advowson of this rectory hath been all along appendant to the manor of Little Easton.

The church is of one pace with the chancel, tiled, and kept extremely neat through the munificence and encouragement of the present worthy patron. At the west end is a square tower, containing three bells.

Adjoining to the south side the chancel is a handsome chapel, called Bouchier's-chapel, having been erected for the burial place of some of that family. It is now used for the place of interment of the noble lords of this manor.



On the south side this chapel is an ancient mural monument with this inscription thereupon :

Quem fuerim qualemque fui me curia novit :  
 Plebs, procures, princeps, patria, testis erat.  
 Hos de me (Lector) non marmora consule : famæ  
 Saxa nihil tribuunt ambitiosa meæ.

Below the Latin lines is added :

Here resteth in assured hope to rise in Christ, Sir Henry Maynard, knight, descended of the ancient family of Maynards in the county of Devon, and dame Susan his wife, daughter and one of the coheires of Thomas Pierfon, esq. to whome she bore eight sonnes and two daughters. He ended this life 11th May, 1610, his lady, six sonnes and two daughters then lyvinge.

And underneath is the following translation of the above Latin lines :

Whence, who, and what I was, how held in court,  
 My prince, the peers, my countrie will report.  
 Aske these of me (good reader) not these stones,  
 They knew my lyfe, these do but hold my bones.

Below this monument is a tomb, at the east end of which is as follows :

Sex natos nataq; duas charissima nuper  
 Pignora, mortem obiens cum matre superflite liqui :  
 Tres me de natis morientem extemplo sequuntur :  
 Tam breve, tam vanum, tam vitæ fulgur inane  
 Ne tam multum viduus, ne cælum solus adirem :  
 Ecce meos comites, me cætera turba sequetur.

In English thus.

At my death I left with their surviving mother six sons and two daughters, whom, lately, I loved most tenderly: soon after my decease, so short, so vain, so empty is the lamp of life, three of them follow me that I might not go to heaven quite a widower and alone.

Behold, my companions, the rest will follow me.

At the west end of the said tomb-stone are these lines:

Rare was the roote, the branches bravely spread,  
And some still are, though some be withered,  
Two of the precious ones (a pitious spoile,)  
Were ile transplanted to a foreine soile  
Where the hott sunne, (how ere it did befall)  
Drew up their juice, to perfume heaven withall  
When will the heaven such flowers to theart repay  
As th' earth afforded heaven, two in a day.

The effigies of Sir Henry and his lady are upon the tomb; they are represented lying upon their backs their heads resting on a cushion, their hands uplifted in posture of devotion: upon the north side the tomb are the effigies of their eight sons and two daughters kneeling.

On another monument against the same wall is this inscription:

Here lyeth the lady Maynard, wife unto Sir William Maynard, knt. and bart. and sole daughter of William lord Cavendish, and of Anne his first wife. She died 1 Sept. 1613, aged 20. As her life was most virtuous and religious, so was her end no less christian and saint like. She left behind her one daughter, named Anne, to the care of her truly grieved husband for the unspeakable loss of so lovinge a wyfe.

Her effigy, at full length, is upon the tomb, in cumbent posture; her left arm resting upon a pillow,  
her

her hand upon a human skull, having in her right hand a book.

On the west side of the chapel is a neat monument, having thereupon the following Latin inscription :

## M. S.

D. Dni Gulielmi Maynard de Estaines in com. Essex, necnon de Wicklow in Hibernia, baronis honoratissimi. Qui serenissimi Caroli primi in comitatu Essexiæ & Cantabrigiæ locum tenens constitutus, provinciam hanc per plures annos ingenti & regis & populi applausu adornavit, conscientia etiam suâ apud utrosque inculpabili, dignissimi nimirum qui principis, & pacis, & legum, & fidei Catholico-Anglicanæ defensoris vices in omnibus suppleret. At vero ingruenti indies fanaticorum rabie, cum religio etiam ipsa exularet, inquietæ, rebelles, & ingrati patriæ valedixit; patriæ tanto (tam in Deum, quam in proximum) charitatis vere christianæ exemplari prorsus indignæ, quem tandem pro meliore nempe cælesti feliciter commutavit 10 Dec. 1640, ætat suæ 55. Juxta jacet Hannah conjux honoratissima, ex antiqua Everardorum familia de Langleys in com. Essex oriunda.

Quæ postquam filium unicum et quinque filias egregias utriusque parentis virtutibus quibus ad invidiam usque excelluerunt adornatos viderat, maritum denuo ad cælos sequuta est; amabili abidem et beatissimo ipsius consortio inter sanctos iterum fruitura, 5to die Aug. A. D. 1647.

Which rendered into English may be read thus :

## Sacred to the Memory

Of the right honourable William lord Maynard, baron of Estaines in the county of Essex and of Wincklow in Ireland. He for many years executed the office of lord-lieutenant of the counties of Essex and Cambridge, under king Charles the First, with great applause both of king and people, and with a conscience unblameable. In every respect, indeed, he was a man calculated to supply the

the place of the most worthy prince, of the defender of the peace, the laws, and the catholic faith, as 'tis professed by the church of England. But when the rage of fanaticism daily increased, when even religion itself was banished, *then* he bid adieu to a restless, rebellious and ungrateful country; so great an example was he of truly christian love (as well towards God as towards his neighbour) to his unworthy country, which at length he happily changed for a better, namely a heavenly, on the 10th of Dec. 1640, in the 55th year of his age.

Near him lies Hannah his right honourable wife, descended from the ancient family of the Everards of Langleys in the county of Essex; who, after she had seen an only son and five excellent daughters adorned with their parents virtues, which *they* so excelled in as to excite the envy of mankind, followed her husband to heaven, there to enjoy again his amiable and most happy company among the saints, on the 5th of August in the year of our Lord 1647.

Over the inscription are the whole length effigies in alabaster of lord William and his lady: they are represented standing with their hands resting upon a large vase which is placed between them.

Against the east wall of this chapel is a most magnificent modern monument, enriched with a variety of pieces of sculpture, executed in a masterly manner. This monument is upwards of twenty feet high, and twelve wide: upon a noble pedestal of white and veined marble stands the whole length figure of William lord Maynard, who is represented resting his right arm upon an urn, having in his right hand a coronet: against the urn is the medallion of the right hon. lady Dorothy Maynard: upon the left hand of lord William Maynard is another medallion, finely executed, of the hon. Elizabeth Maynard; it

is supported by a cupid weeping. Upon the extremity of the pedestal, upon lord William Maynard's right hand, is placed a bust of the right hon. Banastre lord Maynard, and upon that of his left hand, one of lady Elizabeth Grey, his wife. Behind these figures is a large pyramid of Ægyptian marble, against the upper part of which is placed a medallion of the hon. William Maynard; and against an arched pediment, which crowns the whole, is placed the family arms. Below all the above described figures, in the center of the pedestal, is a curious piece of sculpture of various emblematical devices, representing justice, charity, religion, &c. upon one side of which is the medallion of the right hon. Henry lord Maynard, and on the other side that of the right hon. Grey lord Maynard: below these devices is the following inscription:

Within this vault lie interred

The Bodies of

The right hon. William lord Maynard,

who died Feb. 3, 1698, aged 76.

And of the lady Dorothy his wife,

daughter of Sir Robert Banastre, knt.

who died October 30, 1649, aged 27.

And of the right hon. Banastre lord Maynard

their son,

who died March 4, 1717, aged 76.

And of the lady Elizabeth Grey his wife,

the daughter of Henry earl of Kent,

who died Sept. 24, 1714.

And of the hon. William Maynard,

their eldest son,

who



who died unmarried March 8, 1716, aged 50.

And of the right hon. Henry lord Maynard.

their next surviving son,

who died unmarried Dec. 7, 1742, aged 70.

And of the right hon. Grey lord Maynard,

the successor of his brother Henry,

who died unmarried April 27, 1745, aged 65.

And of the hon. Elizabeth Maynard,

the sister,

who died also unmarried October 4, 1720, aged 43.

To the memory of

ALL THESE

His most worthy Ancestors, Parents, Brothers, and Sister,

By whose Care, and through whose Hands

The Honors and Estates of the Family,

After a splendid, hospitable, and charitable Use of them,

Have successively been transmitted to him,

The Right Honourable Charles lord Maynard,

(the youngest Son of Banastre Lord Maynard,

and of the lady Elizabeth his wife)

In Testimony of

His Piety, Love, and Gratitude,

erected this Monument

A. D. 1746.

Upon the north side the chapel is an ancient monument, of grey marble, without inscription, under which was buried the last lord of the Bouchier's family, as appears from the following passage in Sandford's Genealogy, page 85: "Isabel, countess of  
" Essex, only daughter of Richard earl of Cambridge,  
" was married to Henry Bouchier earl of Essex and  
" viscount Bouchier; by whom he had a numerous  
" issue, several of whose descendants are mentioned  
" in the 235th and 236th pages of the third book.

" The

The tomb of this Henry and Isabel is placed betwixt the chancel and *Bowser's* \* isle or chapel of Little Easton in the county of Essex."

On the floor of this chapel are inscriptions for the following persons :

William and Mary Maynard, sonne and dawter of the hon. William lord Maynard By his now Deare Wife Susanna Dawter and heire of Thomas Eyans Merchant of London. Mary departed his Life Feb. 15, 1668. William 9 April 1688

Lady Fisher, wife of the hon. William Maynard, who departed his life 1 March, 1675

In the chancel is a very old monument under an arch in the north wall, with a pyranid over it : underneath is a tomb without effigies or inscription ; but the arms shew it to be for some of the family of Bouchier and Lovayne.

### LITTLE EASTON RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Rev. Charles Walker.

Charles Lord Maynard.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 10 0 0

£. 1 0 0

### G R E A T E A S T O N .

LIES north of the other, and is distant from Dunmow about three miles ; from Thaxted near six ; and from Braintree eleven : in circumfe-

\* The name of Bouchier is frequently called Bowser in ancient records,

rence it is computed to be about ten miles : the soil here in general is light ; the situation pleasant and healthy, and the roads to and from it pretty good. The vill is very small, and the inhabitants supported in like manner as those of Little Easton.

The manor of GREAT EASTON, at the time of the general survey, belonged to Matthew Mortaing, and was holden by the serjeancy of being the king's lardner at his coronation. In the reign of king Henry III. we find this estate in the family of Moyne, which family carried it in marriage to the Stourton family, of great antiquity in Wiltshire, so denominated from the town of Stourton on the banks of the river Stour. John lord Stourton died possessed of this manor in 1462. His successors were William lord Stourton, John, William, Edward, and Charles ; which latter being guilty of murder and executed for the same in March 1557, his estates escheated to the crown ; but before that, this estate was out of the Stourton family ; for Sir Ralph Warren, knt. twice lord mayor of London, died in 1553 possessed of this manor and the advowson of the rectory, holding them of the queen by the serjeancy of being her lardner, and purveyor of her kitchen on the coronation-day. His son was his successor, and was succeeded herein by his sister Johanna's son, Oliver Cromwell, of Hinchingbroke in Huntingdonshire, esq. and in 1597, he sold it, with appertenances, to Henry Maynard, esq. and they have continued in that noble family ever since.

BLAMSTERS, another estate in this parish, took that denomination from a family. 'Tis commonly called *Blansted ball*. From the Blamster family, it's original owners, those which appear upon record to have possessed it, are the Pikenam, Jennings, Kendall, and Tayleure family, in which last it continues, being the property of John Tayleure, esq. a minor.

### Charitable Benefactions.

A charity school was founded in this parish, 11 Sept. 1759, by Mrs. Rebecca Meade, and endowed with a tenement and one yard-land in Great Easton, called Kerby's, (which being copyhold, was enfranchised by Charles lord Maynard) let at 30l. a year; and also two closes, called Cronehill, or Cramps, of 12 acres, let for 8l. a year, in Weathersfield; for clothing ten poor girls, natives of the parish of Great Easton, and teaching them to read, knit, and do plain-work; and instructing them in the principles of the church of England.—As a proper appendage to this charity-school, the right honourable Charles lord Maynard in 1761, did give for ever one annuity or yearly rent-charge of five pounds, to be paid out of Great Easton Hall farm without any abatement or deduction whatsoever, for a schoolmaster to teach or instruct six poor boys of the parish of Great Easton, and the like number of the parish of Little Easton, if so many there be; or for want thereof, to be made up of poor boys of Great Easton aforesaid, in reading, and writing, and common arithmetick. The said poor

Z 2

boys

boys to be chosen, and the schoolmaster to be nominated and appointed by the said Charles lord Maynard, his heirs and assigns, owners, for the time being, of his capital messuage, called Easton Lodge, in the parish of Little Easton aforesaid. The church clerk of the aforesaid parish of Great Easton for the time being shall be appointed schoolmaster, if thought a fit and able man for that office, and if not, then the church clerk of Little Easton aforesaid, if a fit and able man for that office, shall be appointed schoolmaster preferable to any other person.

A house and field, of about four pounds a year, are given for the use of the poor. The donor unknown.

The right hon. Charles lord Maynard, by a deed irrolled in chancery 19 January, 1761, did settle for ever upon the church clerk of this parish of Great Easton, and his successors in said office, a messuage and its appertenances, in Great Easton aforesaid; the said messuage to be at all times kept in sufficient repair, at the cost and charges of the said lord Charles Maynard, his heirs and assigns, owners of the manor of Great Easton.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory, which is a good one, hath been always appendant to the manor.

The church, dedicated to St. John, stands upon a hill, and hath a pretty prospect; it is of one pace with the chancel, and tiled: it is painted, and otherways ornamented much after the same manner as Little Easton



Easton church is: a wooden turret at the west end hath lately been properly strengthened and secured by brickwalls: in it are five bells.

Upon the floor of the chancel, within the communion rails, is an epitaph for

The Rev. Joseph Plume, B. D.

Rector of this parish,

who died Sep. 10, 1686, aged 81.

On the same floor is an epitaph for

George Scot, esq. of Much Easton, who died Jan. 16, 1647.

A black marble stone in the chancel, hath the following in a plate of brass:

Here lieth the son and daughter of George Scot, esq. and Jone his wife, born at one birth and buried together 1721.

In the chancel is likewise an epitaph for

Thomas Leader, late rector of this parish, who died 27 June 1618.

And the following lines on a brass plate:

*Dum libris vivo, morior: sic vitam mihi Mors*

*Nunc vitæ evoluo librum: sic mors mihi vita.*

*Mortalitatis Exuviae viri immortalis Thomæ Cecilii, Rectoris, dum vixit, hujus Ecclesiæ dignissimi, summi Theologi, Morum candore, vitæ integritate, Artium Literarumque peritia, Viri insigniter ornati, sub hoc tumulo reconduntur. Ob. Jan. 29, 1627.*

In English thus:

Whilst I live with my books, I die: thus my life is my death;

Now I have turned over the book of life: thus my death is my life.

Under this tomb is deposited the mortal part of that immortal man Thomas Cecil: whilst he lived, the very worthy rector of this church;

church; a very great divine, a man singularly adorned with purity of manners, integrity of life, and knowledge of arts and sciences. He died January 29, 1627.

Against the north wall of the church is a handsome modern mural monument, in

Memory of Mrs. Ann Meade, daughter and coheiress of John Meade, esq. of London, and of Mrs. Sarah Meade, his wife. She died January 2, 1758, aged 87.

Of Mrs. Rebecca Meade, sister to the above-named, who died June 20, 1761, aged 85.

The said stone records the benefaction mentioned in p. 179 in the following words:

The said Mrs. Rebecca Meade, in order to establish a perpetual Charity for the Benefit of 10 poor Girls belonging to this parish, and to comply with the Request of her late Sister Mrs. Anne Meade, did by Deed, dated 11 Sept. 1759, inrolled in the High Court of Chancery, settle lands and tenements lying in this parish and in Weathersfield, of the yearly value of 38l. in trust that the clear annual rents thereof might be for ever applied in clothing the said girls, and in teaching them to read, knit, and work plain work, and instructing them in the principles of the Church of England, under such regulations as in the said deed is mentioned.

Over the inscription is a pyramid of black marble.

In the middle of the church is an epitaph for each of the following persons:

Jane Meade, the wife of John Meade, of Duton-hill, gent. She died in 1626.

John, eldest son of John and Jane Meade, who died 1666, aged 84, and left issue four sons and three daughters; namely John, Robert, Philip, and William. Elizabeth, Ann, Esther.

John Meade, of Duton-hill, gent. who died 1614, aged 67.

John

## G R E A T   E A S T O N .

183

John Meade, who died 1710, aged 38.

There are two grave-stones besides, in memory of  
divers others of the same family.

## G R E A T   E A S T O N   R E C T O R Y .

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

John Pinsent, M. A.

Charles Lord Maynard;

1758.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 18   13   4

£. 1   7   4

## T I L T E Y .

**O**N the river Chelmer, south of Thaxted, and  
adjoining to the north side of the last-described  
parish, stands Tiltey, which is distant from Dunmow  
about three miles, and from Thaxted three and a half.  
It is a small parish, having therein but a few houses,  
the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by  
husbandry.

At the time of the general survey by the conqueror,  
this parish belonged to Henry de Ferrers ; and it was  
holden afterwards of the Ferrers earls of Nottingham  
and Derby. One Geffrey held it so about the reign  
of king Henry I. as did his son Maurice Fitz Geffrey,  
who, on the 20th of May, 1133, founded here an  
abbey

abbey for Cistercian\* monks, dedicated to St. Mary, and endowed it with the whole land of this parish without any exception. From the register, or ledger-book of this abbey, in the possession of the right hon. Charles lord Maynard, it appears that it had lands and revenues in Chaury or Broksted; in Easton ad Montem, besides Croys-grange; in Thaxted, Depden, Widdington, Newport, Wenden, Littlebury, Langley, Elmden, Christhall, Christhall-grange, Fulmer, Chickney, High-Estre; Bentley, and Fakenham in Suffolk; Babraham and Dacksworth in Cambridge-shire; and a grange in Chigwell. Their church was consecrated in 1221, at which time several grants were made to them in Great Easton, Thaxted, Dunmow, Camvil, Chaury, Plichedon, Stebbing, Weathersfield, and other places. Their revenues, at the time of their surrender, in the year 1535, were valued at 167l. 2s. 6d. according to Dugdale; but Mr. Speed says 177l. 9s. 4d. and the number of monks here then was seven.† King Henry VIII. in 1542, against

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\* The Cistercians or white monks had granges, that is, barns in several places; the reason of which was, that the lands they held in their own hands being discharged of tythes by Pope Paschall II. and Adrian IV. in order to cheat the incumbents of churches of their tythes, they held most of their lands in their own hands, and had large barns or granges to lay up their crops in.

† Some writers have puzzled themselves by confounding this monastery with that at Bicknacre in Woodham Ferrers, and making them one and the same. The Monasticon chiefly led them into this mistake, wherein the title of this abbey is Tilteyensis Abbatia, alias Wudeham; and where in two charters belonging to those two different houses are placed together as if they were one only. What served to add to this mistake was, these two houses having been founded

granted to Sir Thomas lord Audeley of Walden, and his heirs : Margaret, his eldest daughter, and at length sole heir, brought this with the rest of her vast inheritance to her two husbands, Henry Dudley, who was slain at St. Quintin's in 1557 ; and Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk. By this last she had Thomas, afterwards created earl of Suffolk, who sold the premises, in April following, for the sum of 5000*l*. to Henry Maynard, esq. and in his family it hath continued ever since, being now in the right hon. Charles lord Maynard.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was appropriated to the abbot and convent, who enjoyed all the tythes, great and small, till their dissolution ; from which time it became a donative or perpetual curacy in the gift of the noble owner of the site of the abbey : the curate is licensed by the bishop.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled ; a small belfry belonging to it contains one bell in a cupola at the top. This church, like all the rest in the same noble patron's gift, is kept extremely neat and in good repair. A house here, with appertenances, &c. is like-

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founded by the same person : Whereas had they but observed, that they were founded at different times, stood at a considerable distance from each other, and were dedicated to different saints, they might soon have found the truth. See *Monasticon*, vol. i. p. 889. Bp. Tanner, p. 129, and *Newcourt* vol. ii. p. 603.



wife settled on the parish clerk for ever, by the munificence of the same worthy benefactor.

In the chancel, within the communion rails, is a monument, with the effigies in brass of a woman kneeling, with three male children, three female, and three in swaddling clothes; beneath them is this:

Here lyeth buried the body of Margaret Tuke, wife unto George Tuke, of Layer Marney, in Essex, who died 22 Oct. 1590.

Close by the last is another monument, with the effigies in brass of a man in armour and his wife, five males and six females; the inscription is in brass likewise, and is as follows:

His jacet sepultus, cum conjuge Maria, Gerardus Dant de Broukynthorp in com. Lecestriae arm. serenissimi regis Henrici octavi conciliarius. Ob. 4 Maij 1520.

In English thus:

Here lies buried, with Mary his wife, Gerard Dant, of Broukynthorp in the county of Leicester, esquire, privy counsellor to his majesty king Henry the Eighth. He died on the 4th of May 1520.

In the chancel upon the floor near the north wall is another ancient monument, with the effigies of the man, his wife, three sons and two daughters in plates of brass, and likewise the following inscription in a brass legend, which goes round the stone:

Here under lyeth buryed, with Mary his wyfe, George Meddeley, of Tiltey in the county of Essex, esq. He died 21 May, 1562.

Against the south wall of the chancel, in a small blue stone, is the following epitaph:

Thomas

Thomas Holden, A. M. natus in vico Pinchbeck in com. Lincoln,  
hujus eccles. curat. ob. Aug. 16, 1686.

In English ;

Thomas Holden, A. M. born in Pinchbeck in the county of Lin-  
coln, and curate of this church, died Aug. 16, 1686.

On a free stone in the chancel is the following :

M. S.

Gulielmi Clopton, A. M.]  
hujus nuper capellæ  
per quadraginta proprè annos  
curati  
pii pariter ac sedulè  
qui  
(unico relicto filio)  
Johanne Clopton, gen.  
ob. 25 Jan. 1724, ætat, 69.

In English :

Sacred to the memory  
of William Clopton, A. M.  
late curate of this chapel  
almost forty years  
and a man of great piety  
and diligence in his office.  
He died (leaving an only son  
John Clopton gent.)  
on the 25th Jan. 1724  
in the 69th year of his age.

In the middle of this church, in a plate of brass on  
the ground is the following :

Abbas famofus bonus & vivendo probatus  
In Thakely natus qui jacet hic tumulatus  
Thomas dictatus qui xpo fit sociatus  
Rite gubernavit istumque locum pamavit.

A A 2

The

The meaning of this inscription *seems* to be ;

That the famous and good Abbot, who lies buried here, was born at Eakely, that his name was Thomas, that he is now with Christ, and that he fulfilled the duties of his office.

### TILTEY DONATIVE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Charles lord Maynard.

CERTIFIED VALUE.

£. 30 0 0

### T H A X T E D.

**T**HIS large and ancient town stands on the northern extremity of Dunmow hundred, on the river Chelmer, near it's rise ; it is distant from Dunmow six miles ; from Saffron Walden seven ; from Braintree twelve, and from Great Bardfield four. The great road from Chelmsford and parts contiguous to Cambridge lies through to it ; the houses are pretty numerous, and although they are not to be boasted of for their elegant construction, yet of late years they have been much improved, as also have all the roads leading to and from the town : the traffic of this place is small, and the greatest part of it's inhabitants supported by husbandry and spinning. It was anciently a borough town, and was incorporated

rated by the name of the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the town of Thaxted, by Philip and Mary, which queen Elizabeth confirmed. King James I. increased their liberties. From a visitation of the heralds August 20, 1637, it appears, that Robert Humphrys was mayor, and a justice of the peace and quorum within the liberty and borough of Thaxted; George Scott, of Lincoln's-inn, esq. was recorder; John Halls and Thomas Clarke, bailiffs; and about twenty chief burgessees, of which ten had been mayors; they had a common seal, but no arms. King James II. served a quo warranto against this corporation, which they did not think fit to defend. A market was established here, which used to be held on Friday, but hath been discontinued for many years past. They have two fairs, one on August 10, the other was on the Sunday after the Ascension, but hath been changed to the Monday following. The earliest mention of this place is in the Monasticon, wherein we are informed that the college of St. John Baptist at Clare in Suffolk, founded by Eluric in Edward the Confessor's time, had the church of Thaxted among other revenues; at which time the lordship of this town did belong to Wisgar, but was taken from him by William the Conqueror, and given to Richard Fitz-Gislebert, seated at Brian in Normandy, and grandson of Geffrey of Normandy. Being related to the conqueror he came over to England with him, and was rewarded by him with immense estates; and among the rest with Clare in Suffolk, from whence the family

took

took their surname De Clare. His successors were Gilbert, who died in the year 1152; Richard in 1156; Gilbert — Roger, in 1174; Richard, in 1218; Gilbert in 1295; which last being under age, Hubert de Bergh had the guardianship of his person and estate. King Henry III. intended to marry him to a daughter of the earl of March, that he might secure that earl to his side, but failing herein, he granted the benefit of this marriage to John de Lucy earl of Lincoln, and constable of Chester; to the intent that he should marry him to his eldest daughter; but earl Richard clandestinely married Margaret daughter of Hubert de Bergh, then earl of Kent, which highly displeased the king, so that he procured their divorce, and married him to Maud, daughter of the earl of Lincoln, as he designed; whereupon he endowed her with a third part of all his lands. He died in 1262, and was buried at Tewkesbury\*. His son and heir Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, surnamed the Red, Married first Alice, daughter of Guy earl of Angoulesme, niece to king Henry III. who gave her five thousand marks; she becoming lunatic, he was divorced from her; but in consideration of her noble birth, he freely granted to her the manor of Thaxted, and the park, with some estates in Norfolk. His second wife was Joane of Acres, daughter of king Edward I. by whom he had Gilbert, his son and heir, and three daughters. His son Gil-

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\* It was suspected, that he was poisoned at the table of Peter de Savoy, the queen's uncle.



bert, by his last wife, succeeded to this estate, but was slain 8 July, 1314, at the battle of Bannockburn near Striveling, where he commanded the vanguard of the English, and was succeeded by his three sisters, coheirs. Thaxted, then valued at 80*l.* per annum, became the property of his second sister, who had married Hugh de Audley, created in 1337 earl of Gloucester. He was taken at the battle of Borough-Brigg, with the earl of Lancaster; his lands were seized, but his life was spared in regard to his wife. — Bartholomew lord Badlesmere married Margaret, eldest daughter of Thomas de Clare, brother to Gilbert the great earl of Clare, enjoyed this estate in the reign of king Edward II. as a member of the earldom of Gloucester, and had summons to parliament from the year 1309 to 1320. He obtained, from the said king a fair to be kept here on the eve, the day, and the morrow of St. Luke, and free warren here, and in the other parts of his estate, and was made constable of Tunbridge castle. The bailiwick or stewardship of the forest of Essex, came into his family by this marriage. Bartholomew forfeited this and his other estates by his adherance to the discontented barons; and joining in their rebellion, lost his head in 1321. However, by the favour of king Edward III. his son Giles de Badlesmere recovered his estates, and was summoned to parliament from 1335 to 1338. At his decease leaving no issue, the manor of Thaxted was divided amongst his four sisters: Margery, the eldest, was married to William lord

lord Roos, of Hamlake; Maud to John de Vere, earl of Oxford; Elizabeth to Edmund Mortimer, and after his death to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton; and Margaret to Sir John Tibetot. The part of William lord Roos was inherited by William his eldest son, who died in 1352, in the Holy Land, and afterwards by Thomas the younger son: after which it is conjectured, it was sold to the earl of Northampton, or to his lady, for her son, who also probably purchased the lady Oxford's part; for in 1360, it was found that William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, had, with the inheritance of the earl of March, three parts of the manor of Thaxted, which was holden of the king as parcel of the county or honor of Gloucester, by knights service. The fourth part belonging to John Tibetot, descended to his son and heir, Robert, who married Margaret, daughter of William lord Deincourt: he died in 1372, leaving three daughters, the eldest of whom, Richard Scroop, lord treasurer, (having the care of them) married to his son and heir Roger; Milicent, the second, to Stephen his third son; and Elizabeth the youngest, to Philip le Despenser, the younger, whence this fourth part was distinguished from the rest of the manor by the name of *Spenser's-fee*. Philip le Despenser died in 1423, leaving his only daughter and heir Margery, wife of Roger Wentworth, esq. third son of John Wentworth, of Elmesshall in Yorkshire, esq. a younger branch of the Wentworths, of Wentworth Wood house, from whence are descended the earls

earls of Strafford. They had two sons, Philip ; and Henry, the first of this family, seated at Codham-hall, from whom sprung the Wentworths of Gosfield and Bocking. This fourth part of the manor was not re-united to the manor till it was purchased long after, with the other three, and then only joined by unity of possession, but kept distinct by name and title. The other three parts were, after the death of William de Bohun earl of Northampton, re-united with the honor of Clare, in the possession of Edmund, son of Roger de Mortimer earl of March, who enjoyed the site of that honor, and the greatest part of the revenues and knights fees, in right of Philippa his wife, daughter of Lionel duke of Clarence, who was daughter of Elizabeth de Bergh, sister and co-heir to Gilbert de Clare, the last earl of Gloucester of that family. This Edmund de Mortimer, who had the titles of earl of March and Ulster, baron of Wigmore, Trim, Clare, and Connaught, and marshall of England, died in 1381. Some time before his death he had leased out his three parts of the manor of Thaxted to William Latymer, of Dannebury, and others for life ; which is the reason that no notice is taken of this inquisition after the death of his son Roger Mortimer, earl of March, lord lieutenant of Ireland, who was slain there in the year 1397. It is imagined by some, that after the death of Edmund, son of Roger, in 1424, one third part of the demised estate was fallen in ; for it was found, that this last Edmund held, at the time of his death, a third part

of the three parts of the manor of Thaxted of the king in capite ; and that Richard duke of York, of the age of fourteen years, was his heir, being the son of Anne his sister by Richard de Conningburgh earl of Cambridge ; which Richard, in prosecution of his title to the crown, was killed at the battle of Wakefield ; whose son, by Cecily, daughter of Ralph Nevill, earl of Westmoreland, recovered his right, and ascended the throne by the title of king Edward IV. At the death of his mother, in the year 1494, this estate, as part of the honor of Clare and Gloucester, descended to her grand-daughter Elizabeth, daughter of king Edward IV. and queen of England, by her marriage with king Henry VII. In June 1509, king Henry VIII. settled both the honor and this manor, on his queen Catharine of Arragon, in satisfaction of dower, which queen granted the manor and borough of Thaxted to Sir John Cutt,\* to hold during her life, under the rent of 57l. 7s. and king Henry VIII. soon afterwards granted him the reversion of the same, in fee farm, under the same rent. He died in April 1520, and was succeeded first by his son John, and next by his grandson John ; the latter

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\* Leland gives the following account of this family : “ Syr John Cutte knight, and under treasurer of England, bought of one Sevelle, a man of faire landes in Yorkshir then being in troble, the lordship of Godhurste, with the ruines of a castile that standith aboute a 2 miles from the bank of Medwaye river, and a 2 miles from Maidstone. Old Cutte married the daughter and heire of one Roeds about Yorkshir and had by her a 3 hundredereth markes of landes by the yere. Old Cutte buildid Horeh m Hall, a very sumptuous house in Est Sax by Thaxstede, and there is a goodly pond or lake by it, and faire parkes therabout.

of whom was knighted, and sheriff of Cambridgeshire and of Huntingdonshire in 1551: at his death his son John\* was his successor, who being more magnificent than prudent, alienated the manor of Thaxted to Thomas Kemp, esq. in trust. Sir William Smith, of Hill-hall in this county, knt. became possessed of it soon after, and at his death in 1626, left it to his second son Thomas Smith, esq. from whom it hath descended to the present worthy owner, Sir Charles Smith, of Hill hall, in this county, bart. He is lord paramount of this town, and hath the leet; but the manor-house is down. He is also lord of Horeham-hall, where a court-baron is kept.

The above-mentioned fee-farm rent of 57l. 7s. became, in the last century, part of the jointure of Catharine, queen consort of king Charles II. Being settled on the trustees for selling the fee-farm rents of the crown, the reversion of it was purchased in 1672 by Sir John Banks, bart.

Besides the above mentioned capital lordship of the manor and burgh of Thaxted, here are the following five manors or reputed manors; namely, Horeham-hall, Richmonds, Fitz-Ralphs, Venor's-grange, and Yerdely-hall.

The mansion of the manor of HOREHAM-HALL stands about two miles south-west from the church. The account of the several owners of this

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\* This gentleman rendered himself so remarkable for his housekeeping, that queen Elizabeth sent to him the Spanish ambassador to be entertained during a sickness in London.



manor being very imperfect, we shall only observe, that from the Cutte family it hath passed to the present worthy owner Sir Charles Smith, bart.

The manor of RICHMONDS hath a mansion about a mile and a half south-east from the church. It took it's name from an ancient owner, the next possessor to whom, upon record, is the Cutte family mentioned above. In 1590 Sir John Cutts sold it to William Godfrey, otherwise Cooper. In the beginning of this century it belonged to Richard Beale, esq. of Hale-place in Kent, of whose nephew it was purchased by Guy's hospital; to which also belongs Thaxted Lodge.

The mansion to the manor of FITZ-RALPH is situate about a mile east of the church; and is so denominated from a family of the surname of Fitz Ralph. The families upon record who have possessed this estate are those of Fitz Ralph, Chissel, Owen, and Smith; and it belongs now to Henry Wale, of Little Bardfield, esq.

The manor or grange of VENORS is but small, and anciently belonged to Tiltey-abbey, at the suppression of which it was granted to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk; since when the families upon record who have possessed it, are those of Wiseman, Bradbury, Mead, Pigot, and Fenn; and it belongs now to Mr. Johns, of Dunmow.

The manor of GERDELAY, otherwise YERDELEY, about a mile from the church, is reckoned as a hamlet to Thaxted. At the time of the general survey

Survey this estate belonged to Tihil Brito, from whose descendants it hath passed through the families of Helion, Yerdeley, Gerdeley, Wiseman, and Claggert; of which last it was purchased by the right hon. Charles lord Maynard, the present owner.

GODDARD'S-FARM, of good value, in the north part of this parish, belongs to John Jolliffe Tuffnell, of Great Waltham, esq.

Rayner Heckford, esq. hath a good house and estate in this parish.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

YERDLEYS received it's name from Thomas Yerdeley, descended from a younger branch of the Yerdeleys, who resided on the manor of that name in this parish. Some small portions of it were given for pious or charitable uses, before and after his time: the rest, and indeed almost the whole of it, belonged to him, and at his death, (21 Henry VI.) was left in certain feoffees, in trust for his four sons and their issue; and for want of such issue, to be sold, and the monies arising from the sale to be applied in equal shares for the benefit of the church and poor of the parish, and of the highways in and adjacent to it.

The sons all dying childless, the principal inhabitants of the place, (5 Henry VII.) purchased this estate of Yerdeley's feoffees, and established it as a fund for the payments of the tenths and fifteenths of the whole parish, excepting the farms of Horam, Fitz-Ralph, Mileth, and Venors; directing withal, that  
when

when the revenues of the estate were not wanting for these purposes, they should be applied for such other good and helpful uses to the town, as the masters and rulers thereof for the time being should think fit. The estate continued to be employed according to this disposition, so long as the method of taxation by tenths and fifteenths remained; but has for upwards of a century past, been wholly appropriated to charity.

The present standing uses to which it is applied, are fifteen pounds paid annually towards the reparation of the church; twenty pounds to a schoolmaster, which, with the rents of the celler under the cross, and the chambers over the school, goes for the education of twenty-two boys, sons of the poor; and fifteen shillings for playing and cleaning the engines twice a year; the remainder of the rent is applied occasionally in further grants to the church, in the improvement of the highways, and in such other good uses for the benefit of the parish, as the feoffees, in whose care it is intrusted, in their discretion think best. The annual rent of this farm hath been greatly improved within these few years, and is now eighty pounds a year.

The lands and rents, formerly given for lights and obits; the farm called Hunts; and other lands and houses belonging to the poor, with Prince's croft, belonging to the church, are under the care and direction of the feoffees, commonly called of Hunts.

The

The lands formerly given for lights and obits ;  
 Plume's, five pounds a year. Affies or Darcies, or  
 Obbit Mead, 2l. 10s.\* Underthorp 1l. Reynold's-croft,  
 1l. Damory's Mead 4l. 4s. Jesus croft 1l. 4s.  
 Vicarage-mead, 3l.

The estates formerly charged with rents for lights  
 and obits : Rode or Tinkers pightle, 10s. Cham-  
 berlayns 10s. Hanchets 13s. 4d. Goddards mead  
 and Barkers, 6s. 4d. Fleming's mead, 4s. 2d.  
 Bolford-bridge hop-ground, 5s. Gladwyn's-mead  
 4s. 6d. Rode-hall 5s. 5d. Total 22l. 14s. 9d. out  
 of which is given weekly to ten poor persons, nine  
 pence each.

Hunts, and divers other charities. Hunts, given  
 by Walter Paterhall, distributed weekly at 6d. a  
 piece to twelve poor widows, 16l. The four follow-  
 ing are given yearly to the poor in bread : Richard  
 Wilton's gift, out of Wilton's house, 1l. The  
 gift of Daniel Moore, esq. paid out of Moor's  
 mead, 2l. The gift of Mr. Thomas Raynor of Brent-  
 ford, out of Raynor's-houses, 2l. Hayward's lands,  
 4l. A rent charge of 1l. 15s. out of Wragg's house,  
 to six poor widows yearly, given by — Rayner.  
 Prince's croft, 1l. paid to the church-wardens for re-  
 pairs of the church. Total 27l. 15s. Total of the  
 charities committed to the scoffees of Hunts,  
 50l. 9s. 6d.

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\* These two were given by queen Elizabeth for the indigent, impotent,  
 and aged alms-people.

Other charites received by the church-wardens and overseers. Out of Bell rope piece, parcel of Goddards, 5s. to purchase bell-ropes. Two rent charges of 10s. each were given to the poor of this parish by William Ellis, of Bishop-Stortford, glazier, out of his two houses in Bishop's-Stortford, 11. Six pounds and nine-pence, for clothing the poor aged people of this parish, payable out of the exchequer, given by king Henry VIII. 71. 5s. 9d. The cloth purchased with the annuity out of the exchequer is called the queen's cloth, and generally understood to be the benefaction of queen Elizabeth, who was resident at Horeham-hall during some part of the reign of her sister Mary, which probably gave occasion for her returning to the parish the lands and rents formerly belonging to the lights and obits. But, as the vicar of the place, and the church wardens, in a paper respecting this charity, and dated so far back as in 1616, call it the grant of king Henry VIII. it is not improbable but that it was given by that prince in the first year of his reign, in the same progress wherein we have mentioned his being a benefactor at Walden.

William Bendlowes, serjeant at law, had a house in this town, in which he sometimes resided, and was probably the first recorder here after the charter of Philip and Mary. By his deed, dated July 4, 1571, he gave unto Thomas Pettishall, Richard Emeric, and ten of the principal inhabitants of this parish, an annuity of three pounds, out of his lands, &c. in Great and Little Bardfield, to be paid half-yearly

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at Michaelmas and Lady-day, to two at the least of the said twelve inhabitants, their heirs, and assigns for ever, upon condition that they should within four days after the receipt thereof, bestow the same upon the poor aged folk, being married or unmarried, for the time being, dwelling in the three alms-houses at Thaxted, situate over-against the south porch of the church, at the west end of the south side of the church-yard, and under the guild-hall of the town, for ever, so as the said poor folks should be above the age of forty years, and have no child or children there abiding with them, or any of them, and should be no vagabonds, or vagrant idle folk, to be distributed among them according to the greatness of their necessities, as in buying of wood for them, or apparel, or giving them money, as should be thought most convenient for them at all times; with a further provision of bestowing twenty shillings yearly of the said rents, for the re-edifying or repairing of the said three alms-houses, when the same should happen to fall down, or be in decay; and with a further condition, wherein is provided for the raising a new trust from time to time so often as eight of the twelve trustees shall be deceased. This annuity is still kept distinct from the other charities, under the direction of it's own trustees.

The last and greatest of the benefactions bestowed upon this parish, is that of the right hon. William Lord Maynard, who by his will, dated May 30, 1698, directed that the sum of four thousand pounds be laid out by his executors in purchasing the rectory im-

propriate of Thaxted, if it might be had ; or else some other rectory impropriate, glebe, or tythes, to be settled in trustees and their heirs for ever, upon the trusts following ; namely, in the first place to pay out of the profits thereof to such orthodox minister, being vicar of Thaxted, as should duly and diligently perform his function of preaching and reading divine service according to the laws and the religion of the church of England now established, for the increase of his maintenance, one hundred pounds yearly ; and ten pounds yearly more for ever towards the repairs of the fabric of the church of Thaxted aforesaid, as need should require in such particular matters and things as the parishioners there, or some others, should not be compellable to repair or make good, and for the beautifying the same fabric within and without, as the said trustees, with the advice of the vicar there for the time being should think fit ; and the residue of the rents and profits of the premises, over and above all the charges of executing the trusts, which the trustees were to be allowed, to go, and be for binding out poor men-children and women children apprentices, and marrying poor virgins, and setting up poor apprentices to trades at the end of their apprenticeships, and the relieving poor people over-burdened with children, and other like charitable uses, as the heir of his family for the time being, and the vicar, church-wardens, and overseers of the poor of Thaxted aforesaid, should agree upon and think

think fit; of which will he made his son Banastre, afterwards lord Maynard, sole executor.

The rectory of Thaxted being settled and entailed in such manner, that it could not be obtained, there were purchased with the said 4000l. in lieu thereof, under a decree of the court of chancery, the rectory of Potton in the county of Bedford, and the manor, farm, and lands called Giffords and Clopton house in the parish of Wickham-Brooke, and county of Suffolk; and it was ordered by the decree, that these purchases should be made in the names of seven trustees, to be nominated by Banastre lord Maynard: and after his decease, by the heir male of the family of the lord Maynard, deceased; and for want of such heir male by his right heirs; and when by death they should be reduced to the number of three, that then the surviving trustees should convey the premises to the use of themselves, and other new trustees, to be nominated as aforesaid, and their heirs upon the same trusts; and that the vicar and church-wardens of Thaxted for the time being, should receive the rents, issues, and profits of the estates, and let and set the same as occasion should require, and should apply the rents and profits thereof according to the said will, and should yearly account for the same to the said trustees, or the major part of them. The present yearly income from these estates is as follows:

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
From the tenant of the rectory of Potton	120	0	0
From Sir Roger Burgoyne, bart. the yearly composition for the tythes of his lands in Potton	28	0	0
From the tenant at Wickham brooke	62	0	0
The yearly quit-rents due to the manor of Giffords	5	2	5½
Total of the rents of these estates, the fines, and other profits of the manor of Giffords	215	2	5
The total amount of this, and all the preceeding charities, is	355	17	11½

Here are four alms houses : that situate over-against the south porch of the church is probably the oldest ; the second, a little to the westward of it, belongs to the manor of Horeham, and is under the patronage of Sir Charles Smyth, bart. who repairs the fabric, and puts in the inhabitants ; the third, formerly situate under the Guildhall, was removed from thence in the year 1700, and rebuilt at the end of the Chantry-house.

The Chantry-house, with it's yards and gardens, having passed through several hands, after the suppression, was purchased, in 1589, by Thomas Crosbee, vicar of this place, and others, vested in seoffees, and converted into alms-houses for the habitation of three or four poor persons.

The Guildhall, mentioned in the grant of Serjeant Bendloes, stands near the vicarage, and probably belonged originally to the gild of St. John Baptist ;

but

but was used in after times by the rest of the religious gilds, excepting that of the rood, which had a hall of it's own. These gilds being all suppressed at the reformation, the house was for some time let out for the keeping of public weddings, on which occasions the fee paid for the use of it was sixteen pence, and called a Bridal; but in 1562, it was converted into a school, in which state it continued till the year 1711, from which time it has been the parish workhouse.

Ever since 1684, when the corporation was dissolved, the gild or motehall of the borough, situate in the market-place, remained useless till the year 1714, when the feoffees of Yardley's repaired it; and the school, which from 1711 had been kept in the Chantry-house, was removed to this hall.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

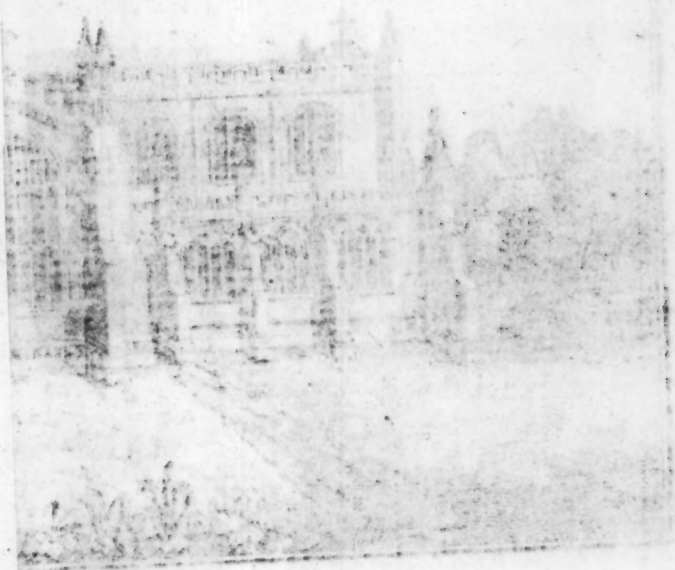
The rectory, and manor called Priors-hall, belonged before the conquest to the collegiate church of St. John Baptist of Clare in Suffolk; removed, in 1124, to Stoke near that town, by Richard son of Gilbert de Clare. To this college or priory, was the rectory first appropriated by Richard bishop of London; the convent, turned afterwards into a college with the title of dean and chapter, continued proprietors both of the rectory and of the advowson of the vicarage till the general suppression of religious houses. Upon that suppression, the rectory and manor of Priors-hall, with the advowson of the vicarage, came to the crown. King Edward VI. in 1551, granted the vicarage,

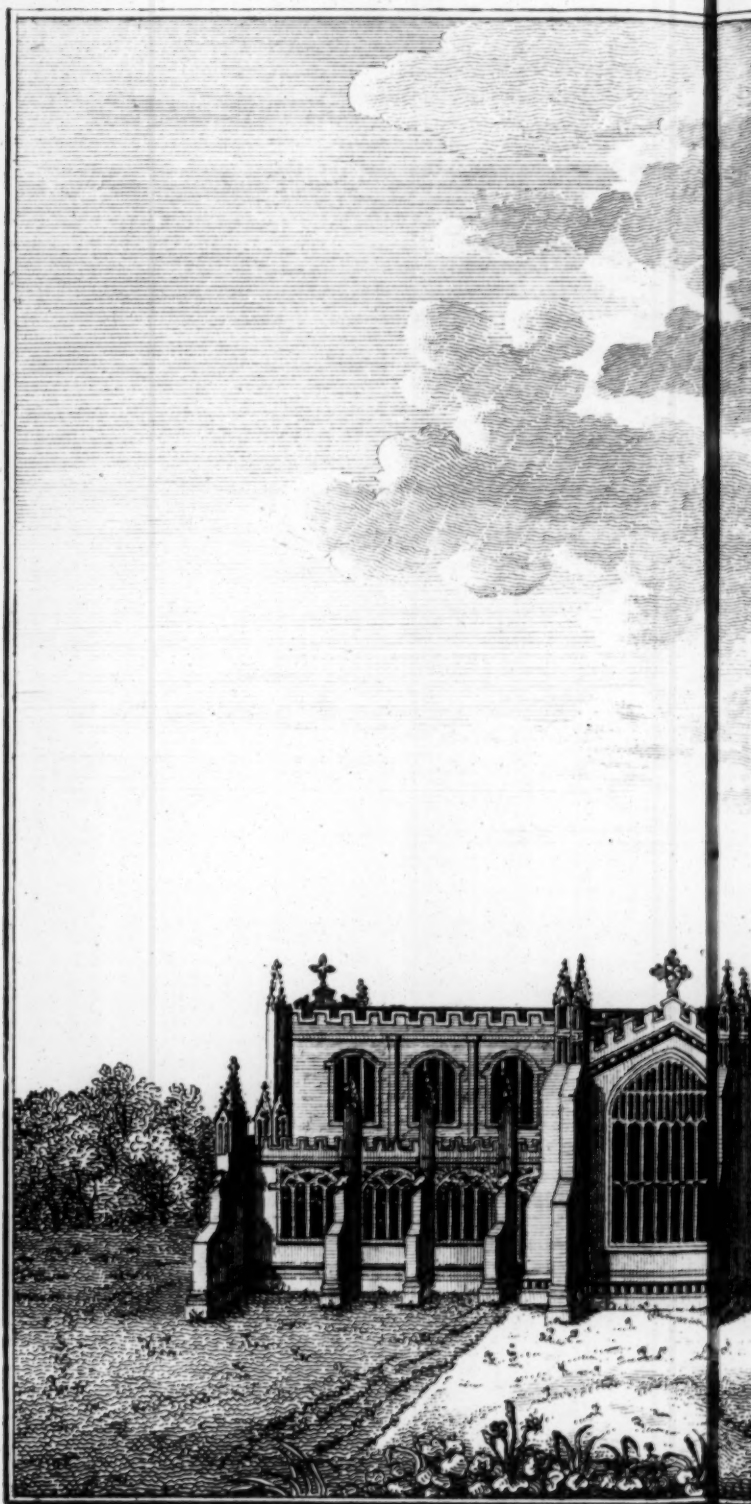


carage, with the manor of Stoke, to his præceptor Sir John Cheeke, but he was forced to surrender all to queen Mary I. What became of these afterwards we know not till queen Elizabeth's time; who granted them February 25, 1569, to William lord Howard of Effingham, and confirmed them in 1580 to his son Charles lord Howard; who by license dated February 26, the same year, alienated them to Robert Petre, esq. fourth son of John lord Petre, who sold them in 1605, to Sir Henry Maynard, knt. from whom they have descended, with the advowson, to the present right hon. Charles lord Maynard.

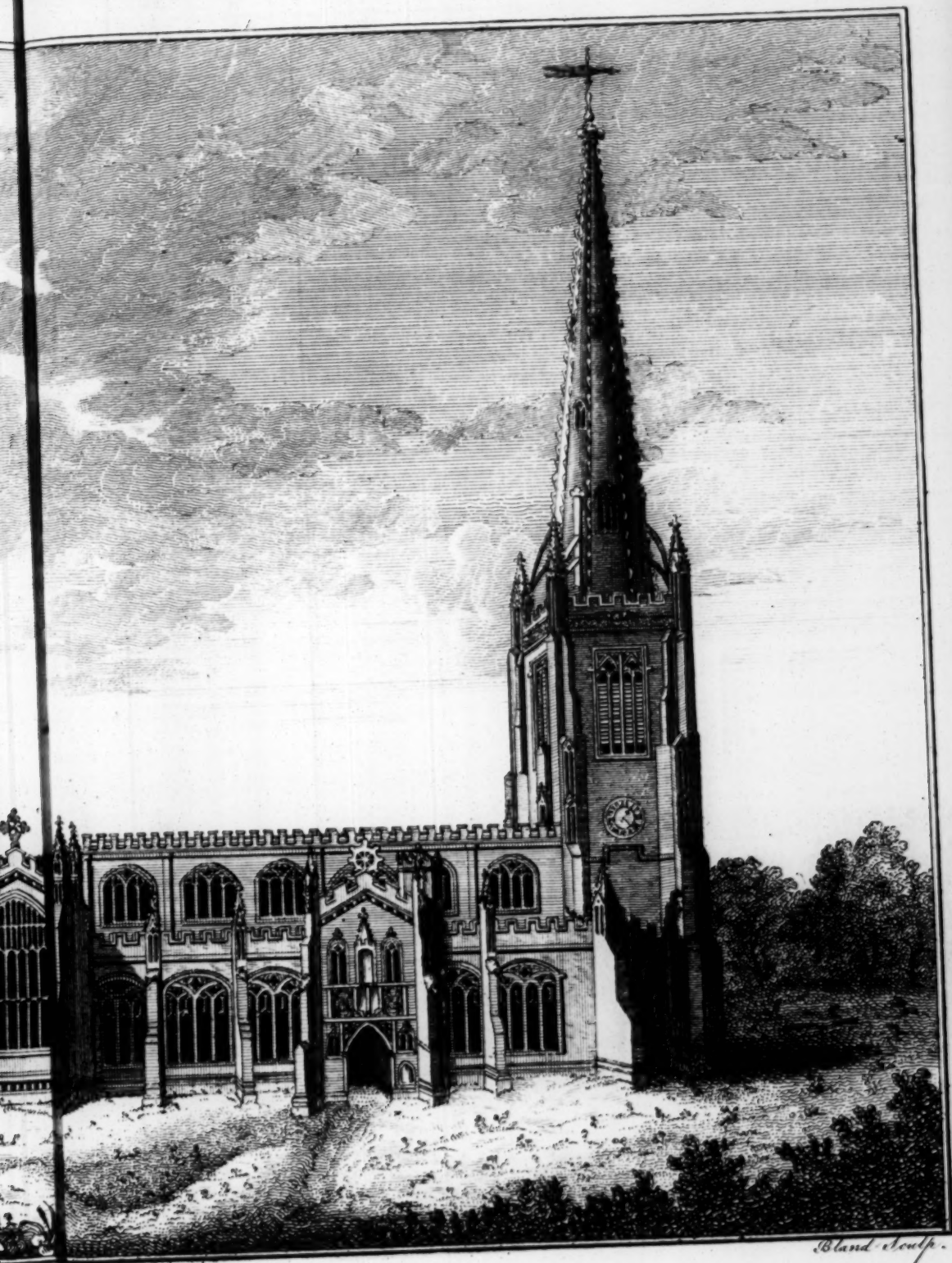
There was a dispute between William lord Maynard impropiator of Thaxted, and patron, and Norman Leader, vicar, who should have the tythe of hops. It was referred to Dr. Laud, then bishop of London, who made the following decision, to which the patron and vicar submitted: That the vicar should receive yearly, besides his usual oblations and dues, twenty pounds of good and well dried hops; that he should be discharged from his usual payment of five marks for reparation of the chancel; and that he should have from the rector a yearly pension of thirty pounds. These five marks seem to have been the money payable from the vicar to the prebendary of Ringers of London at Stoke, mentioned in the Monasticon.

The church, dedicated to St. John Baptist, or, according to others, to the Virgin Mary, or to St. Laurence; is spacious and stately, and upon all accounts





*Tha*



Thetford Church.

counts may be called the best in this county. The length of it is a hundred and eighty-three feet, and the breadth eighty-seven feet, in the inside, exclusive of the thickness of the walls, and the projection of the buttresses: its circumference, buttresses and all included, is three hundred forty-five yards. It is built cathedral-wise, with a cross isle; and consists of a spacious and lofty body, with north and south isles. At the west end stands a noble tower, and spire, all of free-stone, the perpendicular height of which, from the summit of the vane to the ground-floor, is sixty yards, and one foot. In it are six bells. A notion hath prevailed for some years past, that the measurement round this church, including the abutments on all sides, was upwards of a mile: in order to ascertain the truth of which, it was lately measured, and although the church porches and every column and pilaster, as well as other abutments, were taken in circumference, the whole did not amount to even a quarter of a mile.

When, and at whose charge, this costly edifice was raised, can only be conjectured. That it was not solely at the charge of the parish, is beyond all doubt. For though this town was formerly of much more consequence than it is now, yet still the abilities of the inhabitants, even in its most flourishing state, must have been greatly inadequate to an undertaking which in our time would require at least ten years rent of the whole parish, and in former days, when lands were less improved, and artificers better paid in proportion than at present, must have cost more than  
double



double that sum. The best endeavours therefore of the inhabitants were assisted by the zeal, standing charity, and casual benefactions abounding in ancient times for those sacred buildings; and supported by the munificence of the great patrons of this place, the descendants of the illustrious house of Clare; besides what the prior of Stoke could furnish. From the architecture it appears not to be older than the time of king Henry III. or rather to have been built by degrees. The south aisle, and south end of the cross isle, are unquestionably its oldest parts; they not being adorned with pillasters within, and seeming originally to have had no buttresses on the outside; and the compartments of the windows are plain. Elizabeth lady Clare, daughter of Gilbert the Red earl of Gloucester and Hertford, and patroness of the monastery of Stoke, to which this church belonged, is reasonably supposed to have been at the charge of this part. The arms of William de Burgh, earl of Ulster and son to lady Clare, in four of the windows of the nave, indicate him the builder, or encourager, of that great work; which therefore must have been built before the time of his death, which happened, about the year 1340. His son-in-law Lionel duke of Clarence, is justly supposed to have built the south porch, between the years 1362 and 1368. Of which the ducal coronet, cut in stone, over the principal entrance is a tolerable evidence. The north end of the cross isle, and the north isle, were erected by Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, son-in-law and successor

cessor to Lionel, a nobleman not less distinguished for his skill in architecture, than for his piety and munificence. The effigies of a man in armour, in the principal window on this side of the church, bearing on his shield the arms of Mortimer, is justly supposed to be his. In this part of the church superior elegance and good taste are discernible, and it was done about the year 1380.

The chancel, a neat and well-proportioned edifice, was built by some of the house of March, and finished by king Edward IV. as is evident from several cognizances of his, (namely, white roses, lions, heads and paws of lions, with dragons, pelicans, falcons, swans, and a golden spread eagle) which are painted and carved in divers parts; especially his royal arms in the windows of the north isle, intire, with the remains of two other shields, in both which the first quarter is wanting, and in one of them the second; but in their perfect state they contained the arms of York, March, and Geneville, the heirefs of which last was married to Roger Mortimer, afterwards created earl of March.

From the cross-like form of the church; from some alterations which have been made in the two ends of the cross isle to the parts of the roofs adjoining to its centre; and from the omission to raise this central part at the same time with the rest of the cross ayse; it appears, that the tower was intended at first to be erected in the middle of the church. But it stands now at the west end: and the arms of March

and Ulster still remaining in some of the arches of this tower, point out to us the munificent hand of Edmund, the last earl of March, the builder, or at least generous encourager of this great work.

The north porch is justly supposed to have been erected by king Edward IV. which supposition is countenanced by the arms of France, of England, and of the house of York, on two large escutcheons over the entrance. In the arches of two windows over these arms are two crowns in basso relievo, each supported by a hand. Below which, on the jambs of each window, are two heads of men, with those of women on the other side, answering to them: undoubtedly benefactors of the house of York to this church. There was formerly an organ in this church, and the organist had, in 1549, a salary of 1l. 6s 8d. In the windows are some remains of painted glass, but none considerable or historical enough to deserve our attention; only in the east window, at the south end of the cross isle, are several golden falcons, accompanied with white roses; and the motto *min* *grace*; and at the north end of the cross isle is a dragon wreathing round a stump, or ragged staff, both argent.

In 1757, and the following year, near 600l. were expended in the reparation of the tower and spire of this church, at that time fallen into great decay; on which occasion, for the aid of their tenants, and of the other parishoners, the right hon. the lord Maynard gave 100l. Charles Smyth, esq. now Sir Charles Smyth,

Smyth, bart. 25l. the president and governors of Guy's hospital 20l. the late John Wale of Colne priory, esq. 10l. in gratitude for which donations, the arms of these their benefactors were set up over the west door by a voluntary contribution among the principal inhabitants. The north window of the cross isle having also been blown down by the high wind last winter, is now repaired.

There were twenty obits founded in this church; and donations for our lady's light; and other lights; for Jesus Mass; and the like religious uses: the endowments of which are not mentioned, except Millet's mead; Rowle's, Abraham's, Long-croft, Hanchetts, Abels mead, Rood-hall, Broad Fan mead and Crabbes land. Most of them are now part of the charities belonging to this town.

Proportionable to these obits were the altars and chapels in this church. For, besides the high altar, there were the altars of St Margaret, St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Laurence, with our lady's light there; and the lights of St. James, St. Catharine, St. George the Martyr, &c. besides those mentioned above.

The church and chancel are in exceeding good repair, and the latter hath lately received many improvements and alterations; in particular, the east window hath been done up new; the floor new paved; a new altar-piece hath been erected, as have likewise a neat set of iron rails round it: these improvements are not yet quite finished, being obliged

to be postponed till the money arising from the several benefactions shall amount to a sum sufficient to defray the expences of the same.

In the chancel, upon the floor, is a stone with this inscription :

H. J. Thomas Swallow apud Cantabrigienſes, M. B. rei ſpagyricæ juxta ac medicæ cultor ſeſulſus. Chariffimam ſibi adſcivit conjugem Annam, filiam unicam & hæredem rev. viri Roberti Barnard, hujus eccleſiæ vicarii, ex qua liberòs duos ſuſcepit ſuperſtitesque reliquit. Ineluctabili variolarum impetu oppreſſus 4 Ap. 1712, ætat. 26.

In English thus :

Here lies Thomas Swallow, bachelor of phyſic of the univerſity of Cambridge, a diligent ſtudent as well of chymiſtry as medicine: he married Anne, the only daughter and heir of the rev. Robert Barnard, vicar of this church, by whom he had two children, who ſurvived him. He was carried off by the ſmall pox on the 4th of April, 1712, aged 26.

In the ſouth chapel, or chancel, is a neat tomb, upon the ſouth ſide of which is the following inſcription :

P. M. S.

Depoſitum Danielis More, Arm. filii Johannis More, de Thaxted in Agro Eſſexienſi, Gen.

Qui poſtquam lix annos integerrime vixerat, quorum triginta negotiis regiis, quibus par videbatur, fideliter inſumpſit, filiorum ſex; viz. Thomæ, Danielis, Caroli, Edwardi, Abrahami, & Humfredi, nec non filiarum ii viz. Elizabethæ & Margaretæ Pater, ex Catharinâ uxore ſuâ quâcum ſuaviſſimo conjugio vixit) quorum trium Margaretæ ſcilicet Edwardi, & Abrahami conſtanter ſuſtinuit, reliquos honeſte ſuſtulit, erga pauperes hujus pagi de Thaxted (quem ortus ſimul et ſepulchri ſui locum habuit) dum vixit munificus, poſteâ quadraginta libras (ut vulgo dici ſolet) in perpetuum iſdem donavit,



donavit, tandem invalescente morbo, firma alioquin ætate, non sine  
gravi suarum luctu morti succubuit 21 Julii, A. S. 1631.

Thomas More, amantissimi patris filius

Natu maximus pius hæres. H. M. fieri

curavit.

In English thus :

Sacred to pious memory.

The remains of Daniel More, esquire. son of John More, of Thaxted, in the county of Essex, gent.

He lived fifty-nine years with the greatest integrity, thirty of which he faithfully employed in offices under the government ; to which he was, in every respect, equal. He had, by Catherine his wife, (with whom he lived in the greatest harmony) six sons, viz. Thomas, Daniel, Charles, Edward, Abraham and Humphrey ; and two daughters, viz. Elizabeth and Margaret ; three of which children, viz. Margaret, Edward and Abraham, he constantly maintained ; the rest he brought up virtuously. He was, whilst he lived, charitable to the poor of this town of Thaxted (which was both the place of his birth and of his burial); he afterwards gave them forty pounds for ever (as it is usually said). At length, disease prevailing, though his age was not great, he fell to the great grief of his friends, a victim to Death on the 21st of July, in the year of his salvation 1631.

Thomas More, the eldest son and pious heir of a most affectionate father, caused this monument to be erected.

In the north chapel or chancel, upon a plate of brass, is as follows :

Hic jacent reliquia Brigittæ Smith & Joannæ Smith, filiarum Thomæ Smith, arm. & Joannæ uxoris ejus ; quarum major natu obiit 4 Aprilis, minor autem 3 Feb. 1638.

In English :

Here lie the remains of Bridget Smith and Joan Smith, daughters of Thomas Smith, esq. and Joan his wife, the eldest of whom died on the 4th of April, and the youngest on the 3d of Feb. 1638.

In

In the middle of the chancel is the following, now almost obliterated :

Sub hoc marmore conditur Quicquid Mortale fuit viri reverendi Roberti Barnard A. M. hujus Ecclesiæ nuper Vicarii, qui per annos circiter quinquaginta frequentes hujus pagi Incolas summo studio, mira prudentia felicique admodum successu in christianatum fidem tum praxi instruxit, stabilivit, ædificavit. Agros sedule visitavit, inopes & egenas. Liberalitate perquam spectabili, fovit, sublevavit, omnibus quæ natus fuerit ; vitæ inculpabilis, synceræ, & ineffectæ pietatis egregium dedit exemplum. Tandem annorum Satur cælo maturus, Ob. Jun. 26, 1720, æt 79.

Anna conjux Ob. 9 July 1681, æt 30.

In English thus :

Under this marble lies the mortal part of the Reverend Robert Barnard, A. M. late vicar of this church, who with the greatest diligence, an astonishing prudence, and a very happy success for about fifty years, instructed, established, and built up the numerous inhabitants of this town both in the christian faith and practice. He was constant in his attention to the sick. He exercised a remarkable liberality to the poor and helpless. He assisted all who were acquainted with him. He gave an excellent example of an unblameable life, of sincere and unaffected piety. At length, full of years and ripe for heaven, he died June 26, 1720, aged 79.

Ann his wife died 9 July 1681, aged 30.

In the chancel is the following :

Henrico Osborne, A. M. ecclesiæ Haningfield-  
iensis occidentalis rectori hujus vicario.

Viro erudito, probò, pio.

In English ;

In memory of Henry Osborne, Master of Arts, rector of the church of West Haningfield, and vicar of this parish : a man learned, { good, and pious.

On

On the north door of the church, upon a plate of brass, is as follows :

Orate p aiab Henrici Boyton and Johis

In English :

Pray for the souls of Henry Boyton and John.

On the ground is the following :

In the vault beneath are deposited the remains, of William Heckford, gent. who died Dec. 5, 1749, aged 59. And of Elizabeth, daughter of T. Rayner, gent. his wife, who died August 16, 1757, aged 66, together with those of the following of their children :

Ann;	} who died	Aug. 19, 1718,	} aged	6 months.
Thomas,		Feb. 24, 1724,		15 months.
Mary,		June 24, 1739,		26 years.
William,		Feb. 6, 1745.		28 years.

Here is, among several others, an epitaph for each of the following persons :

John Rayner, gent. who died August 27, 1679, aged 51.

Thomas Rayner, of Trinity College, Student, who was buried Dec. 20, 1674.

Nathaniel Westley and Sarah his wife, who died April 27, 1711.

Thomas Turner, who died April 27, 1711.

Richard Turner, who died Sept. 22, 1701.

Richard, the son of Richard Turner and Hannah his wife, who died August 10, 1706.

Against the south side of the tower of the church, on the outside, is the following :

Near this Place lieth the Body of  
PETER PLATT, STONE MASON.  
Of whose Care and Fidelity as a Servant,

His

## DUNMOW HUNDRED.

His Master EDWARD THOMPSON,  
After eighteen Years Experience,  
Places this Stone as a Memorial.  
Of his Qualifications as a Mason,  
This south Side of the Tower,

Repaired under his Direction in the year before his Death,  
Will remain a lasting Monument.

He died August 15, 1759, aged 54.

Where Peter lies, 'tis fit this Tow'r should show,  
That for his Skill, itself had lain as low.

## THAXTED VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Richard White, M. A.

Lord Charles Maynard,

1759.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 24 0 0

£. 2 8 6

## L I N D S E L L

**J**OINS to the south-east part of Thaxted, and borders upon Hinckford Hundred. It is a small parish, rather pleasant in its situation, the inhabitants of which are supported by husbandry. It contains the three following manors; namely, Lindfell-hall, Lachely, and Prior's-hall.

The mansion to the first-named of these manors stands near the church. This manor, in the year 1210, was in the Pyrot family, who have been succeeded

ceeded herein by those of Clare, Baddlesmere, Tibetot, le Despenfer or Spencer, Fitch, and North; in which last it still remains, being in the right hon. Francis lord North and Guildford.

On the top of a hill, about three quarters of a mile south from the church, stands the mansion of the manor of LACHELY; which manor belonged to the honor of Clare; and of the Clare family was held by that of Baddlesmere, which was succeeded herein by William de Bohun afterwards earl of Northampton, from whom it descended in like manner as that of Thaxted did, to Richard duke of York, and so came to the crown, where it continued till the reign of king Henry VIII. who granted it to Richard Jenour, esq. and from him it descended to his heirs and successors, in like manner as did Bigoods or Bigods, in Great Dunmow.

PRIORS-HALL stands about a furlong north from the church. This manor, at the time of the general survey, belonged to the monastery of St. Valery, in Picardy, and is placed under the hundred of Harlow. King Henry V. seized it as a priory-alien; in the year 1508 we find it belonging to New College, Oxford, in which it still continues.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was appropriated to the abbey of Walden, and a vicarage endowed, to which the convent added, about the year 1433, six marks yearly. Both the rectory and advowson of the vicarage conti-



nued in them till their suppression, at which time they were granted by king Henry VIII. to Thomas lord Audeley, who alienated them to William Fitch, esq. whose son Thomas succeeded him herein, and at his death left his son William his successor, who was succeeded by his son Sir Richard Fitch; Dudley lord North of Carthlage had it next, and presented in 1661. His second son, Sir Francis North, chief justice of the common pleas, and lord Guilford, enjoyed it afterwards; from whom it has descended in like manner as Lindsell-hall to the right hon. Francis lord North and Guilford.

The church and chancel are of one pace only, tiled. At the south-west corner stands a tower, containing four bells.

Here is not any monument, or inscription, except one on the ground, which is as follows:

*Hic jacet Thomas Fytche & Agnes uxor ejus, qui quidem Thomas ob. 21 Apr. 1514. Quorum aibus Deus propiciatur.*

In English thus:

Here lie Thomas Fytche and Agnes his wife, which Thomas died 21 April, 1514. May God be merciful to their souls.

Over the inscription is their effigies with those of six girls and five boys.

### LINDELL VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

Jerem. Perkins, B. A.

1744.

PATRON.

Francis lord North and  
Guildford.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

£ 28 18 0

TENTHS.

£ 0 16 0

Chickney.

## CHICKNEY.

**T**HIS parish, which adjoins to the one last described upon its west side, stands south-west from Thacksted, bordering upon Henham in Uttlesford hundred. The houses herein are few, the roads not much frequented, and it contains not any thing remarkable. The inhabitants are chiefly supported by husbandry; the land in general is very fertile, and consists of various kinds of soil, pretty well watered. At the time of the general survey this parish was one of the thirty-five lordships in this county holden by Ranulph Peverell, whose posterity enjoyed it for several years after him. The next owner of this manor, upon record, is the Bourchier family, after which the Collyn family enjoyed it, and was succeeded herein by Evan Lloyd, esq. of whom it was purchased by Joseph Cranmer, esq. and is now in his worthy grandson, Joseph Cranmer, esq. of Quendon-hall.

On Chickney-green is an alms-house for two dwellers.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory is appendant to the manor.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, stands on a rising ground, with a good inland pro

Both church and chancel are of one pace, tiled. A tower of stone, with a spire, shingled, contains two bells. The windows are of free stone, and neat.

### CHICKNEY RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Thomas Higgon, B. A.  
1764.

Joseph Cranmer, esq.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 10 0 0

£. 1 0 0

### BROXTED, otherwise CHAWRETH,

**H**ATH Chickney on the north and joins to Henham on the west. It is a much larger parish than the last-described one, but the circumference of it's bounds is not ascertained. In many parts of this parish the views are pleasing and luxuriant; the houses herein are but few; the roads, considering their privacy, are in tolerable good order, and the soil is very fertile. The manors contained herein are those of Broxted, of Chawreth, and of the rectory.

The mansion-house of the first-named manor stands about three quarters of a mile south west from the church. In the year 1210 this manor was held by the earl of Clare, whose posterity enjoyed it some time after him; the next upon record who possessed it

it is the Lovayne family, from which by marriage it passed into that of Bouchier; and from that family was carried by marriage to William Parr, marquis of Northampton. In 1558 queen Mary and king Philip granted this manor to Sir Thomas White; but in 1590 queen Elizabeth made a grant of it to Henry Maynard, esq. from whom it hath descended to his present successor the right honorable Charles lord Maynard.

The house of the manor of CHAWRETH stands about half a mile north of the church, near Chickney-hall; and is commonly called *Cherry-hall*. This manor is that which at the time of the conqueror's survey belonged to the monastery of St. Etheldred at Ely. This parish having gone by two different names, *Chaure* and *Broxted*, it is not always easy to distinguish which owner had only that called Chaure-hall. In all that relates to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem here, the name of *Chaure* is used, and the church is called the church of Chaure. In 1294 this manor was in the family named De Wanton, where it continued for several generations. It appears afterwards in Sir Robert Gresham, who in the year 1540 sold it, for the sum of six hundred pounds, to Thomas Crawley, of Wendon Loughts, esq. According to the book of the dutchy of Lancaster, this hath since been in the family of Bendish, Adams, and Jocelyn; Sir Strange Jocelyn, of Saffordbury in Hertfordshire, bart. gave it to Conyers Jocelyn, M. D. his younger son, to whom the title of baronet

baronet is since fallen. He told it some time ago to the right hon. Charles lord Maynard.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Here are alms-houses for two families, purchased with parish money.

A rent charge of twenty shillings yearly is paid to the poor of this parish, by the overseers.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

In the year 1151, this rectory, which is a manor, was given by Alured de Bendeville and his wife Sibill, with Roger Pigott's land, and all appertenance, to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, for the souls of the noble house of Clare, and for their own souls. Gilbert earl of Clare is called here their lord. The rectory afterwards was appropriated to that house, and a vicarage ordained, of which they continued patrons till their dissolution. In 1541, king Henry VIII. granted this manor and advowson to George Harper, who had licence to alienate it to Sir Thomas Audeley, lord chancellor. At his death his nephew Thomas Audeley, of Beerchurch, esq. succeeded him, who had for his successor Thomas, who died in 1572; Robert in 1624; and Henry. Mrs. Audeley, of Ramsdenbellhouse, of the family of Beerchurch, settled it on her god-daughter Mrs. Coffin, and it is now in Richard Beauvoir, of Downham, in this county, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, stands on the side of a hill, and is tiled as well as the chancel; but  
a north



a north ayfle adjoining to the church is leaded. The chancel is a lofty, stately building, and there is a partition for a school that used to be kept there. In a small low belfry are four bells. Here is not any monument that is worthy of notice.

## BROXTED VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Jeremiah Perkins.

Richard Beauvoir, esq.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 28 0 0

£ 0 14 0

## BERNSTONE.

**T**HIS parish is situate about ten miles from Chelmsford; three from Dunmow, and fourteen from Ongar: it is pleasant and convenient in its situation, and of a fertile soil: the houses herein are but few, the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by husbandry and spinning.

The name of this place, denoting *Berner's-town*, is supposed to be derived from Hugh de Berners, who was tenant of BERNERS-HALL, (which is the only manor in this parish) at the time of the conqueror's survey; from which time to the year 1388, it continued in his posterity, and then was forfeited to the crown by Sir James Berners, he being then beheaded,

headed, on a charge of treason, for giving king Richard II. evil council. This manor thereupon was sold to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who (according to the Monasticon) settled it upon his college of Pleshy, which college enjoyed it till their dissolution, and king Henry VIII. granted it to Sir John Gate; but Sir John forfeited it by attainder, for taking the part of lady Jane Grey. This manor being a second time in the possession of the crown, was granted by queen Mary, in the first year of her reign, together with the advowson of the church and rectory, to Robert Rich (brother, it is believed, to Richard lord Rich,) from whose family it descended to Daniel earl of Nottingham, who had married lady Essex, one of the daughters and coheirs of the last earl of Warwick. He sold Bernstone to Sir Felix Wilde, of Town-Marden in Kent, bart. whose sister married John Cockman, of Maidstone in Kent, M. D. The doctor enjoyed the estate, which came in marriage with his daughter to Nicolas Toke, esq. as did Priory-place in Little Dunmow; and it is now in John Toke, esq. the present high sheriff for the county of Kent.

About a mile west from the church, leading to High Roding, stands a capital messuage called ALBANES, wherein resided for some generations the Collard family. This estate belonged to lady Fogg, widow of Sir Robert Fogg, bart. and is now the property of Mr. Thomas Rolfe.

CHURCH,

## Charitable Benefactions.

Seventeen acres of land, let to J. Stone, at 9l. per ann. bought with 160l. given by the will of Richard Scott, gent. who ordered the rents and profits to be given to the poor inhabitants for their better relief, over and above their yearly collection.

Eighty pounds, saved out of the profits of this charity when there were no objects to receive it, put out to interest at four per cent. and the interest applied to the same use as the rent of the estate.

A croft of land, called Maiden Croft, containing four acres, given by William Collard, gent. who ordered the rents and profits to be distributed yearly to the most indigent persons of the parish, according to the discretion of the minister, church-warden, and overseers.

An annuity of 40s. given by William Collard, gent. to be distributed within three days after the receipt thereof, by the advice of the minister and other of the ablest inhabitants, to the poor of the parish for their better relief, over and above the ordinary contributions unto them by the inhabitants.

An annuity of 20s. a year given by Nicolas Collard, gent. to be distributed to the most needy and indigent poor of the parish, by the minister, church-warden, and overseers, upon the feast of St. Thomas the Apostle, both issuing out of two tenements and three acres and a half of land at Onflow-green, now in the possession of Mr. Thomas Rolfe.

N. B. The annuity of 6s. 8d. granted by William Collard to repair the church, issuing out of the same, is said to have been forfeited.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory hath all along passed with the manor.

The church, which stands on the highest ground in the parish, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. In a shingled spire, at the west end is only two bells. The steeple was fired and burnt by lightning in 1665.

The parsonage house is neat, and hath been greatly improved by the present worthy incumbent.

Against the south wall of the chancel is a small monument, having thereupon the following inscription:

Memoriæ Sacrum.

Hic situs est Robertus Soott S. Theol. Professor.

Decanus Rossensis, Magister Aulæ Clarenſis in Academia Cantabr: Subdecanus Wellensis, *Vir prisca Fide, antiquis Moribus*, Pietate in Deum, Probitate in Homines, instructissimus, e Collegio S. & Ind: Trinit: Cant: ubi Socius summo cum Bonorum Amore, et pari Honore vixit, ad Aulam Regiam evocatus, Sub-Eleemosynarius Regius factus; olim Elizabethæ, nuper serenissimo Jacobo, Episcopis, Proceribus, Famulisq; certatim charus; etiam dissidentium Centrum & Amor communis, tanta Charitate ut præfectus regii Eleemosynis suas exerceret, et etiam cum cederet Loco regii Eleemosynis præfectus videretur, Aulæ Clarenſis factus Magister iisdem Moribus reliquit Cantabr: quibus olim egressus est, tam aulicarum Aram ignarus, quam Peritus academicarum, quemcumq; Locum allegit beavit Templum Rossense eo Decano Clarenſe Sacellum et Bibliotheca eo Præfecto redarnata. Tot Loca tot trephæa, procacellariatum Academicum mirabili Justitia exegit deniq; Vir etiam cum viveret cœlestis tam supra Adulationem meam (Lector) quam tuam Fidem. Obiit 23 Dec. 1620. Æta suæ 51.

In English :

Sacred to Memory.

Here lies Robert Scott, professor of divinity,

Dean of Rochester, master of Clare hall in the university of Cambridge, sub-dean of Wells, a man truly faithful and good, of great piety to God, and integrity to man. He was of Trinity College in Cambridge, where he lived as a fellow, highly esteemed and honoured by good men. Being called to court, he was made sub-almoner; first to queen Elizabeth, then to king James. To bishops, nobles, and servants he was equally dear; even those who disagreed among themselves agreed in their love of him. He was so charitable that, when dispenser of the royal alms, he exercised his own, and that, when even he quitted this office, he seemed a prince's almoner. Being appointed master of Clare-hall, he returned to Cambridge with the same morals he had when he left it, as much ignorant of court arts as acquainted with academics. He was a blessing to every place he filled; to the church of Rochester, as dean; to Clare-hall-chapel and Library (the latter of which was re-beautified under his mastership) as master. He sustained so many offices and honors, together with the vice-chancellorship of the University, with uncommon integrity. He was, in short, whilst he lived, a heavenly man, as much beyond my flattery (reader) as thy belief. He died on the 23d of Dec. 1620, in the 51st year of his age.

On the ground in the chancel, within the communion rails, is an epitaph for each of the following persons :

Richard Scott, gent. who gave 160l. to buy lands, for the benefit of the poor of this parish.

Robert Scott who died in 1620.

Ady Collard, esq. son of William and Dorothy Collard, who died July 31, 1747, aged 74.

In the chancel upon the ground, is likewise an epitaph for each of the following persons :



Judith, late wife of maister Nicholas Exton, of London, merchant, aged 88 years, 1651.

Nicholas Collard, gent. son of Nicholas Collard, who died a single man Feb. 11, 1680, aged 39.

William Collard, son of William and Dorothy Collard, who died May 13, 1698, aged 34.

And for some others of the same family.

### BERNSTONE RECTORY.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Nicolas Tooke, A. M.  
1766.

John Tooke, esq.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 13 0 0

£. 1 6 0

### P L E S H Y.

**I**S a parish situate about seven miles from Chelmsford, six from Dunmow, and eleven from Ongar; being bounded on the east by the parish of Great Waltham, on the south by Good Estre, on the west by Leaden Roding, and on the north by High Estre: the parish is small, and the village obscure, it consisting chiefly of a long street of wretched houses, or huts; the greatest part of the inhabitants of which are supported by spinning. But notwithstanding its present abject condition, it anciently was a place of much note, and seems to have been considerable before the conquest, and even in the Roman times to have

have been a fortress or villa: for there is a ditch or intrenchment encompassing the west, north, and east parts of the present village; that is, all that is north of the road; and it has the remains of another corresponding on the south side. This place is frequently mentioned in history by the names *Plessys*, *Plashe*, *Pleicy*, *Placy*, *Plessets*, *Plaisy*, with the addition sometimes of *Belhows* or *Bowels*. Mr. Camden tells us it took its name from the French word *Plaisir*, pleasure; the place standing pleasantly on a high ground, with a pretty good prospect, especially southward: it is watered by a brook on the north, and a rill on the south, sufficient to feed any canals or other collections of water. Those who gave it that name undoubtedly thought the situation merited it; though there is no measuring the ancient taste by the present. However it was rendered very pleasing by the fine buildings, fortifications, parks, &c. wherewith it was adorned, and was the seat of the constables of England in the latter end of the Saxon government, and (as the Ely book inform us) is the beginning of the Norman.

In this parish was formerly a castle, possessed for some time by the Magnaville family, but of which at present are but few remains; namely, an earth-work, surrounded by a double moat, and a small part of some of the walls, which being over-grown by ivy, are more indebted to it's friendly shelter for their present situation, than to any strength in themselves, they being in many places chiefly supported by the branches of the ivy. However what is remaining, makes a most venerable appearance, and strikes the  
spectator

spectator with a reverential respect. The other part, called the castle-yard, contains about two acres of ground, and was the site of the castle; from whence, by a brick bridge of one arch, very lofty, is a passage over a deep moat to the keep, or dungeon, or high artificial mount of earth, which is of an unusual oblong form, about forty-five paces in length, and twenty-five in breadth.

Some historians are of opinion that William de Magnaville was the first founder of this castle; and others that it was founded long before; and that when king Stephen created Geoffrey de Magnaville earl of Essex, he conferred upon him this castle and manor of Pleshy. However it is certain, that he was possessed of it in that monarch's reign; and having ungratefully forsaken the king and gone over to his competitor, the empress Maud, he was seized and imprisoned by the former; and in order to obtain his liberty was obliged to give up to the king the tower of London, whereof he had the custody, and his castles at Walden and Pleshy; but king Henry II. restored to his son Geoffrey all the honors, lands and possessions that had belonged to his father, and to his grandfathers: this Geoffrey dying in 1167 had for his successor his brother William, whose marriage with Hadewise, sole daughter and heir of William le Gros, earl of Albemarle, was solemnized at this castle. At his death he was succeeded by Beatrix de Say, married to Geoffrey Fitz-Piers of Ludgarshall castle in Wiltshire, chief justice of England, who in her right was made earl of Essex, and his sons took

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the surname of de Mandeville. They were Geoffrey and William, successively earls of Essex. And he had a daughter named Maud, who survived her father and two brothers, and succeeded to this estate. She was wife of Henry de Bohun, created by king John in April 1199, earl of Hereford; he dying in June 1220, left an only son Humfrey, the good earl of Hereford, whose grandson Humfrey succeeded him. Humfrey, just now mentioned, obtained leave of king Edward I. to inclose 150 acres of his demesne lands, adjoining to his park of Waltham and High Estre, called Le Plesie, to enlarge that park which comprehended some of the lands of Waltham-bury, and was known by the name of *Pleshy great park* so low as in the year 1566. In the noble family of Bohun this estate continued till the year 1416, when upon the death of Joane, widow of Humfrey, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, baron of Brecknock, and high constable of England, her vast possessions were divided between her two daughters and coheirs Elianor and Mary: the former of whom was married to Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of king Edward III. who in her right was earl of Essex and Northampton, and constable of England, and afterwards was created earl of Buckingham and then duke of Gloucester. The latter daughter (Mary) was married to Henry earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry IV.

Thomas of Woodstock (mentioned above) uncle to king Richard II. was lord here, and had licence from that king to found a college, dedicated to the  
Holy

Holy Trinity. He was one of those five lords who took upon them to reform the state, and call the young king to account for his management; who spirited up the parliament to demand of him that the duke of Ireland and the chancellor de la Pole should be displaced, or else they would give him no money; who compelled him to permit the execution of his chief officers and judges without a legal trial, not impeached by the commons, but only by these five lords.

The resentment which this treatment raised in him when he came of age fell heavy upon the duke his uncle. He got a parliament which repealed all the acts of the former, commonly called the unmerciful parliament, and the lords were impeached who had put a force upon him. The earl of Arundel, one of them, was beheaded. The duke of Gloucester was decoyed from this castle of Pleshy by the king. He came hither in the evening after the duke had supped, and whilst he was at supper himself told the duke he wanted his advice and assistance in an affair with the city of London next morning, and asked him to accompany him thither that night. He attended the king with a small retinue; they rode together a private way over the forest, and about Stratford a party appeared, who lay in ambuscade, with Sir Thomas Mowbrey, earl marshal at their head, and carried off the duke to the water-side, and from thence shipped him for Calais;\* there he was found dead in his bed,

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\* This is the substance of the account given of this tragical affair by Sir John Froissart, a cotemporary historian, l. iv. c. 33, 36, with these few additional circumstances. That the king desired the duke to accompany him to

London.



as was given out, of an apoplexy. But the method of carrying him thither is sufficient to justify the general suspicion of murder. It was reckoned extreme barbarity to call his subjects to an account for a rebellion nine years before, and to involve seventeen counties in the guilt of it, together with this violence on the duke of Gloucester and the rest. Yet has this unhappy prince some writers to excuse this last severity from a fresh conspiracy discovered against him.

The most humane of our historians, though they will not justify the conduct of the king, are willing to admit that the affronts put upon him were lessened, and the revenge taken from them aggravated in the succeeding reign. They are content to throw a great part of the blame upon the treachery of his education; and that his tender mind was industriously blown up with notions of despotic power.

Nature, had indeed, formed his mind amiable as his person; the spirit of the black prince appeared in him at fifteen years of age, when he invited one

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London, with five or six of his servants, for that he himself, with his two uncles of Lancaster and York, was to hold a council the next day, in which he wanted also his advice, what answer to give the Londoners, to a petition they were to present to him. Upon this the duke, who suspected no harm, taking along with him only three esquires, and four servants, accompanied the king towards London, who took the way of Bondelay (Epping-forest we suppose) to avoid the great road, and Beshode (perhaps Brentwood) and other towns, still talking familiarly with the duke, as they went along.—In revenge for this, as is supposed, John de Holland, duke of Exeter, the king's uterine brother, and his fast friend, was beheaded here by the populace, either Sept. 22, or 15 January 1400, on account of the conspiracy he had entered into against king Henry IV. T. Walsingham, p. 363, ed. 1603, and Dugdale's Baron, vol. ii. p. 79.

body of rebels to his obedience, and charmed them into submission. Another, under Tyler, who threatened him with his drawn sword, he ordered to be attacked by the gallant Walwyn; and when the enraged crew were about to take vengeance for the loss of their leader, he rode up to them and offered himself to be their captain, by which intrepid behaviour he gained their hearts. He marched into Scotland and drove the Scots with a body of French troops, their allies, up into the mountains, burning Edinburgh and all the open country, when he was but nineteen years old. Had he ended his days at this period, history could have produced but few his equals: he rose like the sun in his morning glory, the delight and desire of mankind. No body can read the feats of his youth without lamenting the abject state in which he submitted to his rival, investing him with the royal authority as far as he could do it, charging himself with all the crimes his enemies could dictate, hearing the turbarhemi, with the recorder before them crying out to have his head struck off, and at last perishing by hunger and cold, or as some authors say, by Sir Pierce Exton's butchers. One beauty there is in this hideous scene, as of a ship well painted bearing up against a storm; the heroic behaviour of Merks bishop of Carlisle, who followed his distressed master in all his dangers and disgraces, endeavouring by his advice and countenance to extricate him from the difficulties in to which his imprudence had brought him; and at last, by force of rhetoric, moved the house of lords in his favour, in the face of a revengeful conqueror.

Leland

Leland tells us one piece of revenge for the duke of Gloucester's death ; " Syr John Holland duke of Excestre, was taken in East-Sax at a mylle by Priceiwell, by communes of the country, and then led to Plaishey, and there, in vengeance for arresting the good duke of Gloucester by king Richard, was byhedid."

In the ensuing parliament the duke of Gloucester being declared a traitor, all his lands and possessions were forfeited to the king. However, his widow Eleanor, at the time of her decease, October 3, 1399, enjoyed his castle and manor of Pleshy, and most of the estates which belonged to her ancestors, with the office of high constable of England. Her husband was at first interred in his collegiate church here, but removed afterwards to Westminster-abbey ; where she was also entombed. Her eldest daughter became heiress to the Bohun estate, and married first Thomas and then his brother Edmund, both earls of Stafford, and afterwards William Bourchier, earl of Eu. But this estate did not come to her ; for on a partition of the estates of Humfrey de Bohun, the last earl of Essex of that name, between king Henry V. and Anne, countess of Stafford, this castle and manor, with the park, fell to the king's share, and from that time were united to the dutchy of Lancaster. In 1547 king Edward VI. granted to Sir John Gate this manor and the great and little parks ; upon his attainder in 1553, for embracing the lady Jane Grey's interest, all his estates fell to the crown, and there this manor remained.

The great park of Pleshy came by purchase, or otherwise, to Richard lord Rich; and it became incorporated with the demesnes of Waltham-Bury, and hath passed with them to the present owner.

The little park of Pleshy, with a messuage thereto belonging, in Pleshy and Great Waltham, was purchased by Sir Robert Clerk, one of the barons of the exchequer, who held it in fee-farm. At his death in January 1607, he was succeeded by his son, Robert, who was knighted. He dying in 1629 was succeeded by his son Robert, who built the great brick house here, called *the lodge*, in which structure they used the old materials of the castle and college. The heirs and successors of the last-named Robert remained possessed of the lodge and estate here, of the site of the castle and the college, and of the tythes of this parish, till Robert Clerk, esq. of Rifehams, sold them in 1720 to Sir William Jolliffe, knt.\* who dying in 1750, left the premises to his nephew Samuel Tuffnell, of Langleys in Great Waltham, esq. and they are now in his son, John Jolliffe Tuffnell, esq.

PLESHY-BURY and FARM are other estates in this parish, the mansion to the former of which lies near a mile west from the church towards High Estre, belong now to John Jolliffe Tuffnell, esq. mentioned above.

In a survey of the king's estates, taken in the last century, and now remaining in the augmentation-office, is found the following memorandums relating to the manor of Pleshy.

\* See the epitaphs in Pleshy church.

“Memorandum, That there is a court baron and  
 “court leet belonging to the said manor, usually  
 “holden upon Wednesday in Whitfun-week.—That  
 “the mayor of Pleshey for the time being is to collect  
 “and gather all the quit-rents, fines, and amercia-  
 “ments of courts, without any consideration allowed  
 “him for his paynes.—That the tennants holding of  
 “the said manor do usually pay one yeares quit-rent,  
 “upon descent or alienation, as a releife, unto the  
 “Lord thereof.”

J. Leland hath met with a tradition, that a more ancient one than *Castel de Placeto* was named *Tumbleffoun*.\* But of this some remains would have been in history and the tenure and command of the lords. And as the lands belonged to the church of Ely, they wanted no redoubts and retrenchments who had the pope's anathema for their defence. This indeed failed them in this place for a time, but must be reckoned an exception to general practice.

Their possessions here were invaded, according to the book of Ely, by Alfgar Stalhere, (that is constable of the army) in the time of Edward the Confessor. The monks complained to the king, who reproved him sharply, but it had not the desired effect: at last, being excommunicated, he sought for a reconciliation, and obtained it upon his swearing that the monks should have their own again at his death. The account goes on, that the conqueror made him end his life in irons,

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\* Itinerary, vol. viii. p. 13.



and that he seized these lands because the abbey of Ely gave shelter to his rebels.

A college was founded here, about the year 1393, by Thomas of Woodstock duke of Gloucester for nine chaplains; one of which to be warden, or master, two of them clerks, and two choristers. It was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. He set aside six acres of ground, upon which he built the college, on the south side of the present church; and endowed his foundation with nine acres more of land in this parish; with the manor of Bernstone in this county; that of Wells in Hertfordshire; those of Bokyngheld, and Whitstable, in Kent, and the advowson of the church of Whitstable; and power to appropriate the churches of Bokyngheld and Whitstable to their own use. The whole being valued at 104l. 3s. 4d. per annum. As for subsequent benefactions to this house, Sir John Cobham, Sir John Harleston, and others, obtained a license, in 1395, to give thereto the manor of South Farnbridge in this county. The collegiate church was in form of a cross, as usual, and from that time became also the parish church; for he had a licence from the king and bishop to transfer hither the parish church, which stood on the opposite side of the road. There had been before a rectory, the patronage of which Geoffrey de Mandeville had given to his abbey of Walden, and they had presented till 1389.

Isabel, the duke of Gloucester's daughter, gave 20l. per ann. for twenty years, for three priests to celebrate for her. Humphrey Stafford duke of Buckingham,

ingham, who was killed at the battle of Northampton, July 10, 1460, and was buried here, with his wife, and three of his sons, one of whom, John, earl of Wiltshire, by will gave one hundred marks to purchase lands for augmenting the number with three priests and six poor men to pray for his soul, and the souls of his ancestors, &c. He also appointed a chapel to be built and hallowed to the worship of the Holy Trinity, and our lady, on the north side of the church, for a mass of our lady to be said daily. Anne his widow, who lies buried with him here, settled forty marks upon them. Sir Henry Stafford, who married Margaret countess of Richmond, mother to king Henry VII. (third son to Anne) appointed his body to be buried here, and gave 160l. to buy twelve marks worth of land to be amortised to find a fitting priest to sing for his soul, in this college for evermore. Edward Stafford, earl of Wiltshire, founded also a perpetual chantry here, of 13l. 4s. yearly rent. In pursuance of which, Robert Wittlebury, and others obtained licence in 1498, to give the manor of Grymesbury in Bolnehurst, two messuages, three hundred acres of arable, twenty of meadow, sixty of pasture, forty of wood, and thirty shillings rent in Bolnehurst, Cashoo, &c. in Bedfordshire, holden in capite, and of the yearly value of 13l. 4s. to Thomas Wootton, chaplain of this chantry.

This college was valued at the time of the suppression, at 143l. 12s. 7d. in the whole, and 139l. 3s. 10d. yearly

yearly clear. The patronage of it was in the Staffords dukes of Buckingham.

In the year 1546 king Henry VIII granted to John Gate, esq. one of the gentlemen of his privy chamber, this whole college, together with the rectory and church of Pleshy, and all the manors of South Fambridge and Barnstone, with appertenances, to the said college belonging; also the advowson of the vicarage of the parish church of Pleshy, belonging to the same college; and a portion of tythes of corn, grain, and hay, and all other tythes whatsoever: also the manor and parsonage of Whitstable, and the manor of Bockingfield in Kent; and the manor of Wells in Hertfordshire; with the bells, lead, goods, chattels, ornaments, and debts belonging to the same, except all the plate. This covetous man pulled the chancel down for the sake of making money of the materials, notwithstanding so many noble persons had chosen it for their resting place; namely, Humfrey Stafford duke of Buckingham, Anne his wife, and three of their sons, particularly Sir Henry Stafford, who had taken to wife Margaret, countess of Richmond, grandmother of king Henry VIII. from whom he had obtained this college; John Stafford, earl of Wiltshire; and Edmund. One would have thought that these bones might have protected the fabric; and that such a desecration could not have been committed but by the hands of Julian or the Saracens. It would have been better judged if he had left this standing, and pulled down the body of the church.

church. But the parishioners purchased it, with the steeple and bells, that they might not be destitute of a place of worship.

Upon the condemnation of Sir John Gate, 19 August 1553, they came again to the crown.—Queen Elizabeth, 29 April 1564, granted the site of the college of Pleshy, with the appertenances, to William Pool and Edmund Downing: and in 1589 she made a fresh grant of the same to William Tipper and Robert Dawe; of whom undoubtedly it was purchased by Sir Robert Clarke. The 21st May 1560, her majesty granted a portion of the tythes, and a tenement here, to the dean and chapter of Westminster: who have ever since leased them out: they are now in John Jolliffe Tuffnell, esq. to whom belong all the other tythes, both great and small.

Ever since the building of the college, and the appropriation of all the profits of the parish thereto, the master had the cure of souls, and performed all the parochial duties.

Before I dismiss this parish, which was so long the seat of the high constables of England, it will be proper to give some little account of that great office, now disused, and almost forgotten in this nation. The name of *constable* is formed from the two Saxon or Teutonic words, *Cing*, or *Conig*, and *Stabul*, that is, the king's stay, or support. He was in this nation the seventh great officer of the crown. His power and jurisdiction was the same as the earl marshal's, and he sat as judge, having precedence of the earl marshal in the marshal's court. By statute 13 Richard II.

it 'pertained to him to have cognisance of contracts touching deeds of arms and of war out of the realm, and also of things that touch war within this realm, which could not be determined nor discussed by the common law, with other usages and customs to the same matters pertaining'. It was an hereditary office in the Bohuns and their heirs, by tenure of the manors of Harlefield, Newnham, and Witenhurst. In right of Anne, daughter of Thomas of Woodstock, it came into the family of Stafford, dukes of Buckingham, and expired in the year 1521 in the condemnation and death of Edward Stafford duke of Buckingham. Since which time there have been only occasional high constables appointed, as at coronations, trials by combat, &c.

A list of the high constables of England may be seen in Holinshead's Chronicles, vol. ii. edit. 1587, p. 865, &c. by which it appears, that there were nine of the surname and family of Bohun, besides Thomas of Woodstock, and three of the Stafford family in right of them, which enjoyed that high office.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

After the dissolution, the church became a donative, or perpetual curacy, in the disposal of the owner of the site of the college; with a stipend of 8l. a year. But it was augmented in 1721, with 200l. by the pious and munificent Lady Moyer, one of the sisters of Sir William Joliffe; and, in 1728, with 300l. more, by her daughter and executrix Mrs. Jennings.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, or the Holy Trinity, was large, and in the form of a cross;

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the tower standing in the middle. What was left standing of it by Sir John Gate, was purchased, as is already said, by the parishioners. But the absence of so powerful and opulent a family, as the lord high constables of England, (for every such noble family must be a support as well as an ornament to a place) and the destruction of the college, which could not but have been some additional support, having brought Pleshy to its present mean condition, the few poor inhabitants could not keep up their church, so that it became quite ruinous; till, chiefly by the munificence of the good bishop Compton, a neat little one was built of brick, about the year 1708. The tower still remained ruinous, and there was no chancel till the late Samuel Tuffnell, esq. built a very handsome one, and under it a vault for his family: he had also the five bells new cast, and placed in the tower, which has been repaired, and stands between the church and chancel.

Upon the south side of the chancel is a neat mural monument, supported by trusses: on the upper part of it, against a pyramidal table of dark-grey marble, is placed an urn ornamented: below, upon a swelling table of white and veined marble is the following inscription:

M. S.

In a vault under this monument lieth the Remains of Sir William Jolliffe, eldest Son of John Jolliffe, Esq. descended from an ancient and honourable Family in the County of Stafford. He was Member of Parliament for Heytesbury, during the Reign of King James the Second. Sir William, in private Life, was a steady Friend, a generous Relation, and of extensive Benevolence. He represented in

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Parliament

Parliament the Borough of Petersfield in Hampshire, and, by his Conduct, proved himself a disinterested Lover of his Country. Dying a Bachelor, he left the Bulk of his large Estate to his Nephews.

This monument was erected by Samuel Tuffnell, of Langleys in this County, and John Jolliffe, of Petersfield in Hampshire, Esquires, in Gratitude to his Memory. Ob. 7 March, 1749, æt. 85.

Upon the north side of the chancel is another very handsome monument, excelling in workmanship and ornament that already taken notice of: It consists of a large pyramidal marble column, standing upon a noble pedestal; at each extremity of which an urn is placed, and between them the bust, in alabaster, of the person whose memory it perpetuates; over the bust is the coat of arms; under the bust the following inscription:

In a Vault under this Chancel lie the Remains of Samuel Tuffnell, Esq. late of Langleys near this Place, descended from a Family which formerly was situated in Hadley, in the County of Middlesex. His Grandfather Richard Tuffnell, Esq. was Member of Parliament for the Borough of Southwark in the Reign of King Charles the Second. About the year 1734 Mr. Tuffnell was appointed one of the Plenipotentiaries to assist at the Congress held at Antwerp, where he resided some Years for settling the Barrier Treaty, *TARIFFS*, &c. with the Austrians and Dutch. He represented in Parliament the Boroughs of Colchester and Maldon in this County, and Marlow in Bucks, and discharged the Duties of those several public Stations, through which he passed, with Ability and unblemished Honor. In private Life many virtuous and able Qualities did not less adorn him. He married Elizabeth eldest daughter of George Cressener, Esq. of Great Tey in this County, and by her left Issue three Sons, John Jolliffe, George, and William; and two daughters, Elizabeth, and Maria Anna. He died 27 Dec. 1758, aged 76.

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In this vault lie likewise interred Elizabeth and Rebecca, sisters to the said Samuel Tuffnell, who both died unmarried.

In another tablet :

This Monument was erected by his eldest and most affectionate son, John Jolliffe Tuffnell, Esq. of Langleys, to perpetuate the Regard due to his Worth, and as a Memorial of his Gratitude to the best of Fathers.

### PLESHY DONATIVE.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

William Stephenson.

John Jolliffe Tuffnell, Esq.

## H I G H     E A S T E R

**I**S adjoining to Pleshy on the north-west point. The parish is large, being in circumference upwards of twenty computed miles : the vill consists of few houses, but which are rather neat : it is distant from Chelmsford and from Ongar, about ten miles each ; and from Dunmow about six : the inhabitants are chiefly supported by a few shops which supply the neighbourhood with necessaries, and by husbandry and spinning : the soil hereabouts is rather a heavy one, well watered. This parish seems once to have contained Good Easter and Pleshy ; and when the division was made it is conjectured that this was distinguished by the appellation of *high*, either because the ground

ground or the church is higher than that of Good Easter. Mr. Salmon in his remarks upon this parish observes, that he has 'frequently met with the termination *tree* corrupted from *street*, as *Edwinstre* and *Estree* in Hertfordshire, and *Becontree* in Essex, he therefore believes this name came from East street; or rather the vill east of the street. There is a road yet in use from Dunmow to Ongar, such as the Saxons would call a street, on the east side of which both Easters and Pleshy stand. The Roman way from Dunmow to Ongar led by Stane-street; for the sake, he presumes, of passing by the fortress of Wallbury, where was a summer guard to the road, and for the sake of which place the road was kept in good repair. Yet in the Saxon times there was occasion for traffic and travelling at the intermediate vills between Dunmow and Ongar, upon which a road was erected, still remaining, and that part of it which goes through High Rothing retains the name of *Street*'. The manors, or reputed manors in this parish, are those of High Easter; Hayrons; Mannocks, or Bellhouse and Powers; Garnets and Merks; Berwicks, (the greatest part of which is in Rothing Abbess; and the manor of the rectory,

The first-mentioned of these manors adjoins the church-yard, and is called HIGH EASTER BURY. The families who have possessed this estate from the conquest to this time are those of Mandeville, Bohan, Thomas of Woodstock duke of Gloucester, Edmund earl of Stafford, and king Henry V. who annexed

it to the duchy of Lancaster. It appears that king Richard III. in order to engage Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham to his party, made him a grant of this manor, among the rest of the Bohun estates, in 1483, but his enjoyment of it was very short, and it reverted to the crown as part of the duchy of Lancaster. In 1629 king Charles I. sold the site of this manor to the city of London for the money they had lent him. It lately belonged to the Rev. Richard Master, rector of Woodford, of whose son the Rev: Mr. Master it hath been purchased by John Jolliffe Tuffnell, esq. A court leet for the honor of Mandeville and Tutbury is kept here yearly on the Tuesday after Michaelmas-day. The payment to this court is according to the number or quantity of knight's-fee after death only. But to the honor of Clare fines are paid after alienation as well as death, in this manor; for a house one shilling; and the like sum for every acre of meadow and hop-ground; and for every acre of arable and pasture six pence.

The mansion to the manor of HAYRONS is about a mile south from the church, on the left-hand of the road leading to Good Easter: it is old, and moated round. The families upon record, through which this manor has passed since the Conqueror's survey are those of Mandeville, Hayron, Gedge, and Glasscock.

The mansion to the manor of MANNOCK's stands about a mile and a quarter east-north-east of the church; and a quarter of a mile on the right  
hand



hand, out of the road leading to Dunmow. It takes its name from a family surnamed Mannock, who enjoyed it in the reign of king Edward IV. at which time it consisted of two manors, called Bellhouse and Powers. It continued for many generations in that family; and is now in Thomas Brand, of the Hide, in Ingatestone, esq.

The mansion-house of the manor of GARNETS and MERKS stands two miles north-east from the church, on the right hand as you go to Dunmow, near Bishop's green. This manor took its name from two families, it's ancient possessors; the former of which had it from the year 1165 till the year 1350. In the reign of king Edward III. it was in the Gate family\*, where it remained till Sir John Gate was condemned, and beheaded in 1553, for espousing the lady Jane Gray's interest, when all his estates fell to the crown. This manor was granted, with others, by queen Mary to Richard Weston, esq. one of whose successors sold it in the year 1561 to Kenelm Throgmorton, esq. who two years afterwards parted with it to William Fytche, esq. whose son Thomas succeeded him. Since then it has been in the family of Dyer of Dunmow; Sir Swynnerton Dyer's executors sold it in 1740, to Sir Brownlow Sherrard; but

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\* Sir Geoffrey Gate, of this family, was a famous soldier; six years governor of the isle of Wight, and afterwards marshal of Calais. He died 22 Sept. 1477, and was buried in the north aisle of this church, with his wife, daughter and heir of Thomas Baldington, of Adderbury in Oxfordshire. See his epitaph.

that purchase not being executed, it was bought by John Henneker, esq. who has several estates in this neighbourhood.

The mansion to the manor of BERWICK is not in this parish, but is distant from High Easter church near four miles south-west: part of the land lies here. This manor, after passing through a variety of owners, is now the property of Thomas Brand, of the Hide, Ingatestone, esq.

PANTLOW, or *Pentlow-end*, situate about a mile north-ward from the church, is a hamlet to this parish.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

Geffrey de Mandeville gave this church, amongst several others, to Walden abbey, of which he was the founder. The rectory, or great tythes, were, from time immemorial, appropriated to that monastery, and a vicarage endowed, of which the abbey and convent continued patrons till their dissolution, when the rectory impropriate, which is a manor, was given by king Henry VIII. to Thomas lord Audeley: but king Edward VI. in 1547, settled it, by way of exchange, on the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, with the advowson of the vicarage, of which they have ever since continued patrons. The rectory is held under them by lease; lately by the Glascock family of Fernham and Brises; then by Robert Chester, esq. who forfeiting it to the South-sea company, it was purchased by Sir William Jolliffe Tuffnell, and is

now in John Jolliffe Tuffnell, esq. The manor house of the rectory is about half a mile north-east from the church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is very large and lofty, and consists of a body and north ayse, (the upper end of which was called Garnet's chancel, or the old chancel, because it was the burial place of the Garnet family, and was formerly the only chancel here) all leaded. The chancel is of one pace only, with a good vestry adjoining. At the west end of the church is a neat gallery, and behind it stands a large strong stately tower, in which are five very good bells. — The roof of the church is supported by timbers curiously carved. A tradition prevails here, that about the year 1460, the roof of the church was raised several feet, and a new-roof erected as well as a new chancel, all at the expence of Sir Geoffrey Gate, who caused several parts of the carved work in the new roof to represent gates of various kinds. How far this tradition may be true, we cannot take upon ourselves to declare; but that a part of the north ayse of the church is called Garnet's, or the old chancel; that various parts of the carvings do plainly imitate gates; and that the roof of the church appears to have been raised considerably since it was first built, is obvious to every frequenter of it.—Upon the top of the tower is a small spire, leaded, with a saint's bell.

In the old chancel, against the north wall, was formerly a plate of brass, which is now torn away,

though

though the place to which it was affixed is still to be seen: it had this inscription upon it:

Pray for the soul, all ye that live in light,  
Of Sir Jeffry Gate, the curtesse knight,  
Whose wife is buried here; by God's might,  
He bought the manor of Garnets by right  
Of Coppedo Gentilman lyon behight,  
Of Hiest' witness his wyff and executor  
This yere and day come on his dely Howers  
XXII day of January, 1456.

Underneath is a tomb-stone on the ground; having around it a brass legend, containing part of the following inscription:

Here lyeth dame *Agnes Gate, wife of Syr Geffrey Gate knt.* the which Syr Geffrey Gate was six yere captayn of the isle of Wight, And after that marshal of Caleis; there kept with the Pikards worshippingful warris & *eo intended as a good knight to please the kyng in the pties of Normandi with all his might. The which Agnes dyed the 1x of Dec. 1480, whose soule Jhu have mercy.\**

## HIGH EASTER VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRONS.

William Stephenson. Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.

M. A.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 14 14 7

£. 1 9 5½

\* That part of the epitaph printed in Italics, is now broken off; but the whole epitaph being preserved in N. Salmon's History of Essex, we have been enabled to present our readers with it. There remains upon the same stone part of their effigies in brass.

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## G O O D   E A S T E R

**L**IES south of the other, and south west of Pleshy, being distant from Chelmsford seven miles, from Ongar nine, and from Dunmow eight; and in circumference computed to be about ten miles. The village is very small, and consists of but few houses, the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by husbandry. The soil is good, but of various kinds, and well watered. The name of *Good*, which distinguishes it from *High*, was given to it since the conquest, and at the time the lands belonged to a religious house. It has been written *Good Easter* and *God's Easter*, and in Reyley's Pleas, the most ancient record that has it, *Godichestre*; the meaning of which might be *God's Easter*, these donations being generally expressed as given to God: so the proverb. As '*sure as God's in Gloucster*', came from the great number of churches, convents, &c. in that city. *God* and *Good* mean originally the same; they were names the Saxons used for the deity. Earl Eustace gave this parish to the collegiate church of St. Martin le Grand in London, founded about the year 700, by Wythred king of Kent; but re-built and chiefly endowed by two Saxon noblemen, Ingelred and his brother Edward, about the year 1056, which foundation was confirmed in 1068 by the conqueror. This parish of old was called



led the *prebend of Good Easter*, and the parish church a *prebendal church*, because wholly appropriated to the college of St. Martin; four prebendaries of which had their endowments in this parish, named Passowes, Imbers, Fawkeners, and Bowers, and to each of them belonged a house here; namely, Fawkeners, on the south side of the church, which is still standing. Imbers stands opposite to it on the right hand. Bowers and Passowes are demolished; the former stood behind the vicarage-house; and the latter below it, being a large house moated round, as indeed were most of the houses of any note in this part of the county. These four were reckoned as so many distinct manors, and afterwards sub-divided into Newarkes or Newlands-fee, and Wares.

The collegiate church of St. Martin le Grand kept quiet possession of this parish from the time of earl Eustace's giving it to them till the reign of king Henry VII. in 1492, when that monarch gave Good Easter with the collegiate church of St. Martin le Grand, and the sanctuary belonging to it, to the monastery of St. Peter, Westminster, where it continued till the suppression. Westminster-abbey being dissolved in 1539, and all it's possessions becoming invested in the crown, king Henry VIII. in 1540, made this part of the possessions of his new erected bishopric of Westminster; upon the suppression of which, he two years afterwards granted the manor and hereditaments, called Newarkes in Good Easter, formerly belonging to St. Peter's, Westminster, and all the tythes  
of

of corn, grain, and hay, and all other tythes whatsoever, of and in the manor aforesaid, and Newland's-fee in Good Easter; and all those capital messuages of Passows, Imbers, Fawkeners, and Bowers; the rectory of Good Easter and the advowson of the vicarage, to Sir Richard Rich and his heirs. Two years afterwards the king granted him the yearly tenths, or reserved rent to the crown, of 6s. 3d. out of the said manor of Newarks, and divers other lands in Good Easter, &c. parcel of the possessions of the said monastery and other religious houses, amounting to the sum of 69l. 4s. 1d. yearly, for the sum of 1100l. He died possessed of them in 1566; as did his son Robert in 1580, and his great grandson, earl of Warwick, in 1618, whose son Robert sold them in April 1620 to Sir Henry Mildmay of Graces; his grand-daughter, Elizabeth Waterston sold them some years ago to Thomas Bonnel, esq. and they are now in his posterity.

The mansion-house of the manor of NEWARKS, or *Newland's-fee*, lies in a bottom, about a mile and a half south-east of the church, by the side of the road leading to Roxwell. It was purchased of Richard lord Rich by Sir Robert Clark, baron of the exchequer, who made it the place of his residence: in his posterity it continued ever since, till brought by marriage to the present owner the rev. Charles Philips, vicar of Tarling.

The manor of WARES hath a large house, moated round, in a bottom by the side of the road leading from

from Good Easter to Mashbury. This manor for a very considerable time was holden of the collegiate church of St. Martin; it was afterward in Sir Samuel Thwayt, of Newland-hall, in Roxwell, knt. and belongs now to John Nash, of London, gent.

#### Charitable Benefaction.

Between four and five pounds yearly, the donor unknown, is left at the disposal of the principal inhabitants of the parish, who for many years past have applied it in repairing and beautifying the church.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

When the collegiate church or free-chapel of St. Martin le Grand, with the sanctuary, &c. thereto belonging, were given by king Henry VIII. to the monastery of St. Peter, Westminster, this church of Good Easter became part of their possessions also, and so continued, and in the crown after their dissolution; the nomination of the vicarage came afterwards to the Rich family, and continued in them till the death of Charles earl of Warwick, being excepted and reserved in the sale to Sir Robert Clerk. Since the death of the said Charles earl of Warwick it hath passed through several private hands: it was lately in the Rev. Mark Gretton, M. A. of Felsted, whose daughter brought it in marriage to the present owner, the rev. Angel Silke, M. A.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a body leaded, and a south ayse tiled. The chancel  
is

is of one pace only, tiled; in it are several cells, or arches of stone, cut in the wall; the tower, at the west end, of stone at bottom and of timber above that, with a spire partly shingled partly leaded, contains five bells.

A stone, at the bottom of the church, has this inscription:

Under this stone lies buried the body of Margaret Norrington, wife of Thomas Norrington, daughter of Edward Norrington Esq. Gent. who deceased Jan. 27, 1610.

### GOOD EASTER VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Drake, junior, M.A.      Angel Silke, M.A.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 40 0 0

£ 0 16 0

### M A S H B U R Y.

**T**HIS parish, which is a very small one, is distant from Chelmsford about five miles, and lies south-eastward from Good Easter: it belonged formerly to the Mandeville family; which was succeeded by that of Fitz-Piers. Maud, daughter of Geoffrey Fitz-Piers earl of Essex, brought it in marriage to Henry de Bohun earl of Hereford and Essex; who was succeeded herein by his two daughters and coheirs,

coheirs, Eleanor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, and Mary, married to Henry Plantagenet, earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry IV. and in the sharing of the Bohun estates this fell to the lot of the king, who annexed it to the duchy of Lancaster; after which time it seems to have been usually part of the dower of the queens of England till the year 1544, when king Henry VIII. granted it, and the advowson of the rectory, to Geoffrey Lukyn, whose posterity, after enjoying it for several years, were succeeded by the Petre family, in which it still continues.—Mashbury-hall stands on the south side of the church.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory formerly was appendant to the manor, but hath been alienated from it for some time past, and is now in John Strutt, of Terling-Place, esq.

The church and chancel are of one pace only, tiled. A steeple at the west end, with a spire shingled, contains three bells.

### MASHBURY RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON,

Foote Gower, M. A.

John Strutt, Esq.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 9 14 7

£. 0 19 5½

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K K

CANFIELD



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## CANFIELD.

ON and near the road from Dunmow to Stortford lie two contiguous parishes of this name, distinguished from each other by the appellation of *Great* and *Little*; they are bounded upon the east side by Little Dunmow; on the south by High Roding and Hatfield Broad-oak; on the west by Hallingbury; and on the north by Takely and Great Dunmow.

### GREAT CANFIELD

IS the largest of the two, as the name denotes, and is otherwise distinguished by the appellation of *Al Castrum*, at the castle; because here anciently was a castle, of which the artificial mount of earth whereon it stood still remains, and is planted with trees; and the castle-yard, encompassed with a pretty deep moat, over which there is a bridge, the only entrance into the castle, contains about two acres, now converted into an orchard. When and by whom this castle was built, we have no certain account: 'Our antiquaries, who have called it *Canonium*, from the castle and similitude of sound together, believe 'it as ancient as the time of the Romans in Britain. 'There is room for other guesses which may be indulged since we can arrive to no certainty. Fair 'Eddeva might fortify here before the conquest, after 'she had sold the castle of Stortford to the bishop of 'London;

'London; or De Vere might do it during the  
 'wars between Maud and Stephen, at which time it  
 'appears that Geffrey de Mandeville aimed at getting  
 'Stortford into his hands, by the interest of Maud,  
 'by some exchange with the bishop, or to have the  
 'fortress there demolished; or De Vere might fortify  
 'here upon king John's destroying the bishop's castle  
 'of Weytemore in Stortford for executing the king's  
 'interdict. Weytemore was the chief place of  
 'strength hereabouts, which seems to have been erected  
 'during the heptarchy, because the estates hereabouts  
 'which were subject to pay castle-guard, lie on the  
 'East Saxon side the bank which ran through Hert-  
 'fordshire, from Theobalds to Barley; and this was  
 'their defence against inroads from Mercia.' How-  
 ever, thus far we know, that it was one of the castles  
 belonging for many years to the noble family of De  
 Veres, earls of Oxford, and probably built by one of  
 the first of them.

This parish, which is both healthy and pleasant in  
 its situation, is distant from Hatfield Broak Oak  
 about eight miles, and from Dunmow four and a  
 half; and in circumference is computed to be about  
 eight miles. The houses herein are few, and hus-  
 bandry the chief employ of the inhabitants. At the  
 time of the general survey by the Conqueror, the  
 De Vere family continued possessed of this parish  
 till Edward, the seventeenth earl, sold it to John  
 Wiseman, esq. whose posterity enjoyed it for several  
 generations; after whom we find this manor in Tho-

mas Hucks, esq. who sold it to Nathan Cooper, esq. and his daughter brought it in marriage to William Perkins, of Westminster, esq. whose two daughters and coheirs sold it to Mr. William Peers. It is now in John Jones, esq.

From time immemorial the copyholders of this manor have a right to fell and cut down any of the woods and underwoods growing upon their copyholds and customary lands, to be expended and employed about and upon any of their copyhold or freehold lands and tenements holden of the said manor; and also to fell any timber trees growing upon their several copyhold lands for the repairing or rebuilding of any houses and buildings, in and upon any of their several copyhold lands and tenements, without any licence from the lord of the said manor; and the lord of the manor hath no right to cut down any timber trees growing upon the copyhold lands of the said manor. The copyholders have also a right, without any such licence, to make leases of any of their copyhold lands for three years; and to carry marl, or yearly compost, from any of their copyhold tenements to another holden of this manor, without any licence; and that without forfeiting or endangering their copyholds. The fine hath been always certain, and not arbitrary at the will of the lord; namely, five shillings an acre, and after that rate for every less quantity, and nothing for the messuage or tenement. The better sort of copyhold tenements having no lands but a yard, or back side, pay five shillings for every admittance;

admittance; and the worse sort of tenements having no lands nor yard, pay two shillings and six pence upon every admittance. These privileges were confirmed by a decree in chancery 25 Nov. 35 Eliz. by Sir John Puckering, lord keeper, after a suit in chancery between the copyhold tenants and John Wiseman, esq.

*Great Canfield Park* was likewise sometime in the Wiseman family, and in 1561 Thomas Wiseman, esq. sold it to William Fytche, in whose family it remained for sometime. It has been many years in the lord Maynard's family, and belongs now to the right hon. Charles lord Maynard.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was granted by Alberic the first earl of Oxford, to the monks of St. Mary of Hatfield, and of St. Melanias. The rectory, as was customary in such cases, was appropriated to them, and a vicarage ordained, of which they continued patrons till their dissolution, when it was granted in 1553 to Thomas Cecil, and from him passed to the Wiseman's, who continued a long while patrons. It was lately in Mrs. Brand, of Fyfield, widow, and is now in James Wyatt, esq.

The church, which is leaded, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. The tower, which is of stone topped with wood, hath a shaft leaded, with a gallery round; in it are four bells. Here was formerly a lofty spire, but being much decayed it was taken down  
by

by the bishop's order before the great storm in 1703. The windows of this church are remarkably narrow, and those at the east end singularly small.

Against the east wall of the chancel is an ancient marble monument : under an arched pediment, supported by two pillars of the Ionic order, is seen the half length effigies of the two persons to whose memory it is erected, with their hands united ; beneath the effigies is this inscription :

In memory of Sir William Wiseman, bart. who married Anne, daughter and one of the coheirs of Sir John Prescott, by whom he had no issue ; who since married Arabella, daughter of Sir Thomas Hewett, bart. and Margaret his wife, of Pishoberry, Herts, by whom he had thirteen children, whereof eight are surviving, viz. Thomas, William, George, Charles, John, Ann, Margaret, Arabella, He died Jan. 14, and was buried the 23, 1684, and in the fifty-fifth year of his age.

*Soli Dei Gloria.*

In memory of the truly virtuous the lady Anne Wiseman, wife to Sir William Wiseman, of this parish baronett and younger of the two daughters and coheires of Sir John Prescott of Hoxon in the county of Suffolk knt. who put off the troublesome robe of mortality the 11th day of May, 1662, leaving four and twentyeth years of her age unfinished, whose body lies here mortgaged to the grave, until the grand jubile : the resurrection.

In the chancel on a stone upon the ground is the following inscription :

Here lyeth Eliza Tyderlegh, wife of Robert Tyderlegh, eldest daughter of Sir William Wiseman, bart. ob. April 26, 1654.

On an ancient tomb in the chancel, are the effigies of a man and six boys, of a woman and six girls, and this inscription ;

Here



Here lyeth Jhon Wyfeman, esquier sometye one of the auditors of our sovaigne lorde kyng Henry theight of the revenues of the crown, and Agnes his wife; which John dyed Aug. 17, 1558.

On a black marble stone upon a tomb on the south side of the chancel is as follows;

Here lyeth the body of the lady Elizabeth Wiseman, wife of Sir William Wiseman, of this place, bart. (who died at Oxon, in July 1643 and was there buried in St. Peter's in the east) and daughter of Sir Henry Capel, knt. son and heire of Sir Arthur Capel, of Hedham-hall, in the county of Hertford, knt. who was born Jan. 26, 1612, and died April 6, 1660.

In the middle of the church, upon a brass plate on the ground, is the effigy of a man in armour, and this inscription;

Here lyeth buried Thomas Fytche, of Hye Estre, esquire, who had to wif Agnes, the daughter of John Wyfeman, esquier and had issue by her three sons and three daughters, which Thomas deceased 29 Nov. 1588.

In the middle of the church on the ground is a stone, with this inscription;

Here lieth the body of Francis Penwerne, gent. who died March 10, 1722, aged 75, who was minister of this parish 51 years.

It is remarkable, that a few years ago there being occasion to take up this last stone, there was discovered at the back of it an epitaph for one of the Wiseman family.

Great

## GREAT CANFIELD VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Nicholson, M. A.

James Wyatt, esq.

1753.

CLEAR YEARY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£. 41 1 0

£. 1 6

## LITTLE CANFIELD

**I**S contiguous to Easton and Dunmow, and northerly from Great Canfield: from which last place it is separated by a small rivulet; it is a small vill, standing on the high road from Dunmow to Bishop's Stortford; from the former of which places it is distant a little more than two, and from the latter nine miles; the soil is in general very fertile though of various kinds, and the situation we may venture to say is healthy from the instances of longevity in some of it's inhabitants\*.

This parish, at the time of the conqueror's survey, was holden by William de Warren; Geffrey de

\* Richard Wyatt, of Canfield-hall arrived to the age of 101 years, and upwards; and when he was ninety-nine is said to have walked from hence to Thaves-inn, London, in one day, or at least a little more—A predecessor of this last-named gentleman died here at the age of 90. Another of the same family lived to the age of 100.—Thomas Wood was church-clerk of Great Canfield seventy-eight years, and died in May, 1738, aged 106. He kept his bed but one day, and could see to read without spectacles to the last.

Mandeville, and Alberic de Vere; from whence arose three manors in this parish; namely, Little Canfield-hall; Langthorns, and the reputed manor of Stone-hall.

The manlion to the first-mentioned of these manors stands about a mile north from the church. This manor continued from the time of the survey in the Warrenn family till it's extinction in John the eighth and last earl of Warrenn, Surry, and Suffex, who died in 1347; his sister brought it to her husband Edmund Fitz Alan, earl of Arundel and Surry, whose family enjoyed it for several generations: we find it next in the family of Fytche, one of whom sold it to Sir Henry Maynard, knt. and from him it hath descended to the right hon. Charles lord Maynard.

The manor of LANGTHORNS seems to have been what Geffrey de Mandeville had; which in time came to the Arundel family; and hath since passed thro' those of Scott and Collard to—Howland, gent.

STONE-HALL was so called because it is built of stone, and with windows like those of a church. It stands on the right hand of the Stane-street as you go from Dunmow to Takey; the lands reaching to Little Easton and Dunmow. It was formerly in the Raven family, and from thence came to Thomas Nuttal, who was succeeded herein by Thomas Rampstone, whose successor Robert Rampstone, esq. yeoman of the chamber to king Edward VI. queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth, charged his estate with twenty-two pounds in yearly charity to

the poor of eleven parishes in Essex and one in Middlesex\*, which at length fell on this part of his estate. At his death he left this manor to his widow, and the reversion to her son Nicholas Blencoe, esq. by a former husband, whose son Nicholas mortgaged it to Thomas Gwillim, of Highgate, esq. and he sold it to Charles Howland, whose family has enjoyed it for several generations.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church and rectory was given to the priory of Lewes in Suffex, most probably by William de Warenn its founder, in 1078. After the suppression of the monasteries it was granted by king Henry VIII. to Thomas Cromwell earl of Essex; by whose attainder it falling again into that king's hands, he granted it, in the year 1545, to James Gunter, gent. and William Lewes, yeoman, whose son afterwards sold the advowson of this rectory to William Glascock, gent. and his heirs and assigns for ever. The Glascock family presented to it above one hundred years. It was purchased some time ago by Christ's College, Cambridge, in which college the patronage remains.

The church, a small fabric at a little distance from the Stane-street, is of one pace only, as likewise is the

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\* The names of the parishes are as follow: To Chinkford 3l. Waltham St. Crofs 2l. Walthamstow 2l. Woodford 1l. Loughton 1l. Chigwell 2l. Wansted 1l. East-Ham 1l. West-Ham 1l. Layton 1l. Endfield 2l. To Newgate, Kings-Bench, and Marshalsea prisons each 1l. To both counters 10s. each.

chancel;

chancel; both which are tiled. A small belfry, with a wooden spire, leaded, contains three bells.

Upon the north side the chancel is a vestry, ascended by nine steps; over the door of which is the following inscription:

This vestry,  
with the vault underneath it,  
designed for the burial-place of himself and family,  
was erected by James Wyatt, esq.  
in the year 1757;  
who also in the following year  
'contributed the sum of sixty guineas  
for completing the cieling of the church  
and the covering the spire with lead.

In the chancel is the following inscription;

Here lyeth buried the body of Thomas Rodea, of Takely, gent. who married Margaret, eldest daughter of Richard Escot, esq. ob. Aug. 17, 1657. Also the body of the rev. Thomas Altherfon, M. A. late rector of this parish, who died June 14, 1749, aged 64 years. A pious and learned divine.

In a brass plate upon the ground is this;

Here lieth the body of Anne, daughter of John Wiseman, of Felsted in Essex, esq. first married to Thomas Fytche, esq. sometime lord of this parish, by whom she had three sons, Thomas, William, and Francis; after whose death she was married to Ralph Pudfor, of Greys Inn, esq. she died Dec. 3, 1593.

Her effigy in brass is placed above the inscription.

In the chancel upon the ground are the effigies of two women; that of a man was placed between them, but is torn off; beneath is the following inscription;

L. L. 2 Here



Here lyethe buried under this stone the body of William Fytche, esq. late lord of this towne, which had two wyffes Elizabeth and Ann; and the said William had yssue by Elizabeth his first wyffe, two sonnes, and three daughters, and by Ann his second wyff foure sonnes, and the sayde William being of the age of 82 yers changed this life on the 20th of Dec. 1578.

Below the inscription are the effigies of four boys and six girls.

A marble monument against the south wall of the church hath this;

James Wyatt, of Little Canfield-hall  
to the memory of his dear father and ancestors, &c.

In a vault under this stone lies buried the body of Richard Wyatt, gent. late of Little Canfield-hall, who died Feb. 7, 1741-2, aged 82 y. ars.

Also the body of his son Richard Wyatt, of Much-Easton-hall, who died Feb. 20, 1741 2. aged 52 years.

Also the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Wyatt, relict of Richard Wyatt the elder, who died Dec. 16, 1750, aged 90.

Also the body of John Wyatt, gent. eldest son of the above Richard Wyatt, who died July 4, 1757, aged 68.

Also the body of Richard Wyatt, gent. who died May 9, 1715.

Also the body of Richard Wyatt, who died May 5, 1664, aged 100 years.

Also the body of his son Richard, who died Feb. 6, 1696, aged 100 years.

The names of divers others of the same family are likewise recorded upon the same monument, with the time of their decease, and their several ages; but as the limits of our work will not permit a minute description of every monument, we have omitted them.

LITTLE

## LITTLE CANFIELD RECTORY.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Richard Wilding, M.A. Christ's College, Cambridge.

1749.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS

TENTHS.

£ 12 0 7½

£ 1 4 0¾

## THE RODINGS

WERE formerly nine in number, but now only eight, Morrels having long been united to that which is denominated by the appellation of White: these eight are as follow; High, Aytrop, White, Leaden, Margaret, Berners, Abbeis, and Beauchamp, of which the first six are in the hundred of Dunmow, the two last in Ongar hundred. The Rodings is a fruitful spot, though not famed for good roads. Whether the name came from the river Roding, which waters these parishes, is not certain; various conjectures are formed concerning its derivation, but after all we are left in the dark. Rothing is another way of writing the name, and so Roothing and Roinges.

## HIGH RODING

IS distinguished with the appellation of *high*, because it stands higher up the river, and upon higher ground

ground than the rest ; it adjoins to the south side of Great Canfield, and is situated about twelve miles from Chelmsford ; four from Dunmow ; twelve from Braintree ; seventeen from Saffron Walden ; nine from Bishop-Stortford, and nine from Ongar ; it is a parish rather obscurely situated ; has but few houses, the inhabitants of which are supported by husbandry.

The parishes are described in domesday-book by no other name than the general one of *Rodinges* or *Rodings* ; so that the only method we have of discovering where each manor therein described lay, is by tracing it from the lords there mentioned down to the subsequent possessors. High and Aytrop Roding belonged before the conquest to the monastery of Ely ; but the monks having incurred the conqueror's displeasure in sheltering some English who would not submit to him, he stripped them of several lordships, and of this amongst the rest, which he gave to William de Warrenn, earl of Watrenn in Normandy, nephew to the countess Gunnora, and related to William the conqueror, whom he accompanied in his expedition to England, and was rewarded by him with twenty-one lordships in this county, one hundred and thirty-nine in Norfolk, and several others elsewhere. He was made earl of Surry by William Rufus in 1088, and died in the same year. His successors, earls of Warenn and Surry, were William, who died in 1138, William in 1148, William of Blois, who married Isabell,

Isabell, only daughter and heir of the last, and died in 1160; Hameline Plantagenet in 1201; William Plantagenet in 1240; John in 1304; his grandson John; who was succeeded by his sister Alicia, wife of Edmund Fitz-Allen earl of Arundel, who being beheaded through the artifices of queen Isabel and Roger Mortimer, his estates became forfeited: his son Richard was restored in blood, and died in 1375; but this estate became once more forfeited by his son Richard being beheaded in 1397: Thomas, son of the last-named, was restored to his honor and estates, and had this manor, out of which the priory of Cheshunt in Hertfordshire received yearly ten quarters of wheat. This last Thomas earl of Arundel dying in October, 1714, without surviving issue, his estates were divided amongst his sisters and coheirs, Elizabeth duchess of Norfolk; Johanna de Beauchamp, lady Abergavenny; and Margaret, lady to Sir Rowland Lenthall, which three enjoyed their several parts of this manor for some time. In 1477 we find it in Thomas Boteler, earl of Ormond. His daughter was married to Sir William Boleyn, who had two daughters, queen Anne Boleyn; and Mary, married first to William Cary, and afterwards to Sir William Stafford, which Sir William in 1554 alienated this estate to Sir Thomas Jossilyn, or Jocelyn. He married Dorothy, daughter of Sir Geoffrey Gate, and had by her six sons and seven daughters.\* Richard, the eldest son, succeeded his father

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\* This family is of very great antiquity, there being twenty-four successive generations in their pedigree, as may be seen in Sir Henry Chauncy's Antiquities

father Sir Thomas in the manor of High Roding-bury, and the advowson of the church; and from him they have descended to the present owner, Sir Conyers Jocelyn, bart. and M. D.—The mansion house to High Roding Bury adjoins the church-yard.

NEW-HALL JOCELYN, or DAVIES-HALL, is near a mile west from this church. It seems to have been built by some of the family of Jocelyn in the beginning of last century, for their residence. It was a large house with a court and a chapel, but is now much decayed.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

George Jocelyn of Sabridgeworth, esq. and John Jocelyn, of High Roding, his son, gave six milch-kine for ever: the profit of two for the reparation of the church; the other four for an obit for themselves and the souls of their ancestors.

In 1616 James Chopping gave 13s. 4d. to the poor, out of a cottage called Hills; a tenement and two crofts of land called Tooleys; and two other crofts called Kinglley's, in Great Dunmow; charged by George Raynbeard with the payment of twenty shillings yearly for ever to the poor of this parish. He also gave Little Rowland field here.

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quities of Hertfordshire, p. 183, and in the Baronetage, vol. iv. p. 481, &c. Thomas the 9th in descent, married in 1248, Maude daughter and coheir of Sir John Hyde, of Hyde-hall in Sabridgeworth in Hertfordshire, by which match that lordship came into this family, and hath continued in it upwards of five hundred years.

A school-



A school-house in the street was endowed by Sir Strange Jocelyn and his brother Edward, rector here, for teaching poor children.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was given by some of the noble family of Warrenn to the priory of Lewes in Suffex, which was of their foundation. It continued in their disposal till the suppression of monasteries; when it coming to the crown was given by king Henry VIII. to Thomas lord Cromwell; upon whose attainder it reverted to the crown, and was passed with the manor to the Jocelyn family, in whose gift it has remained ever since.

Here is not any parsonage, nor so much as the traces of one to be found. According to Mr. Newcourt's copy of the terriers, there were twenty acres of land together, and a hoppet, where the site should be looked for: but it has been so long a nonentity as not to be recovered. This may be attributed to the monastery of Lewes, who fleeced the living in form of a pension; and, perhaps, for the cure employed a monk of Hatfield or Tremhall, who had an abiding place of their own, so the rector's might silently fall to the ground.

The church, dedicated to All Saint's, stands well, but is a small low building of one pace with the chancel: the church is leaded, the chancel tiled. A belfry at the west end, with a shingled spire, contains three bells.

In the chancel, upon the ground, is a plate of brass, containing the following inscription :

Here lyerh buried the bodyes of Edward Jocelyn, esq. fourth son of Sir Thomas Jocelyn, late of New-Hall Jocelyns, in the parish of High Rothinge, in the county of Essex, knt of the bath; and Mary his wife, the only daughter and heire of John Lambe, late of Middlesex, gent. by whom he had six sones, and eight daughters. He died April 15, 1627. She Feb. 22, 1614.

In the chancel, upon the ground in a plate of brass, is as follows :

Here lieth buried Christopher Jocelyn, esq. fifth son of Henry Jocelyn, esq. who died April 12, 1605, aged 23.

In the chancel, upon another plate of brass, is as follows :

John Jocelyn esquire interred here doth lie,  
Sir Thomas Jocelyn's third son, of worthy memory.  
Thrice noble was this gentleman by birth, by learning great,  
By single chast and Godly life he wan in heaven a seate,  
He the year one thousand and five hundred twenty-nine was borne,  
Not twenty years old him Cambridge did with two degrees adorn,  
King's college\* him a fellow chose in anno forty-nine,  
In learning tryde whereto he did his mind alwaies incline.  
But others took the praise and fame of his deserving witt  
And his inventions as their owne to printing did committ†.

One

\* It should be queen's college, of which he was admitted a fellow in the year 1549. Towards founding a Hebrew lecture in his college he gave 100l. which was employed toward a new building, and the rent of a chamber of 5l. a year allotted for that use.

† This John Jocelyn, esq. was a learned antiquarian and secretary to archbishop Parker, whom he assisted in collecting and writing *Antiquitates Britannicæ*, published by that prelate. The writer of this epitaph in this and the preceding line intimates that the archbishop wronged him by taken the honor of

## HIGH RODING.

275

One thousand six hundred and three, it grieves all to remember,  
He left this life, (Poor's daily Friend) the twenty-eighth December.

## HIGH RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

John Lawrence, A. M. Sir Conyers Joscelyn, Bart.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 20 0 0

£. 2 0 0

## AYTROP RODING

**S**TANDS south of High Roding, and is distant from Chelmsford about eleven miles; from Ongar eight; from Dunmow six; and in circumference is computed to be about eight miles. It is a small vill, standing in an obscure part of the country, and surrounded with very indifferent roads: the houses here are few, and husbandry the chief employ of the inhabitants. It took the name of Aytrop from an ancient owner named Aytropius or Aytrop, before the reign of king Edward I. It is otherwise written Eythorpe, Aylthorpe, Gytrop, and Roinges Grumbalds.

of that book to himself; but the archbishop had certainly the chief hand in compiling this work, as well as in collecting the materials, for the most part out of the registers of his see, which in the most material passages are underscored with the archbishop's red-lead pencil. See Mr. Strype's life of archbishop Parker, and Biographia Britannica, under Parker.

M M 2

This

This parish, before the conquest, belonged to one Leofwin, a nobleman, who to atone for his cruel matricide, or murder of his mother, gave the lands here to the abbey of Ely; from whom the conqueror took them for the reason before mentioned under High Roding. At the time of the survey William de Warrenn had a part of this parish. The manors contained herein are those of Aytrope-Roding, Keers, and Friar's Grange.

The mansion-house to the first-mentioned manor stands at the west end of the church. This manor seems to have been made part of the endowment of the bishops of Ely; for Nigel, the second bishop of that see, granted it to Alberic de Vere earl of Oxford, by the service of two knights fees, &c. Some time afterwards this appears in a succession of five generations surnamed de Aytrop, or Eythorpe, but they seem to have been under the earls of Oxford. King Edward I. and his consort Eleanor gave to Guido de Ferre and Margery his wife, for their good service, this manor. In 1337, Sir Thomas Water had this estate; whose daughter and coheir brought it in marriage to her husband John de Lovaine, of Little Easton, whose daughter and coheir Eleanor brought it in marriage to her husband Sir William Bouchier, and in that family it continued till it came to Anne, daughter of Henry Bouchier, the last earl of Essex of this line, and wife of William marquis of Northampton, who forfeited it in asserting the right of lady Jane Grey; yet the said Anne marchioness of Northampton

Northampton enjoyed this estate till her decease, notwithstanding she was divorced, and her children declared illegitimate by parliament. In November 1570 queen Elizabeth made a grant of this among several other estates, to Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, and afterwards earl of Essex, who was next heir to the marchioness of Northampton, the fate of whose son and successor Robert earl of Devereux has already been mentioned in divers parts of this history. In the year 1607 Thomas Aylet held this manor and the advowson of the church, whose son Thomas\* succeeded him. It was afterwards spent in the service of king Charles I. In 1670 the manor and advowson were in the Luther family; since that time the manor was purchased by one of the family of Barrington, where it continues, being the property of John Barrington, esq.

The mansion to the manor of KEERS stands about a mile south-east from the church. The account of the different possessors of this manor is very uncertain till we find it in the Aylet family about the

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\* From this Thomas descended the heroic Captain Aylet, whose memory is kept up at Colchester for his desperate defence of that place, and particularly for one stratagem which has been a nursery story ever since. When the besieged had fed upon cats, dogs, and horses till their diet was more dreadful than death, the cavalry, of which body he was, resolved upon a sally to sell their lives as dear as they could, or cut their way through the enemy. He had kept a bull for that purpose, whom he besmeared all over with pitch, tar, and grease, then set fire to him, and turned him out of the gate amongst the besiegers in a dark night; the consternation occasioned by the unusual sight and horrid roaring he judged proper for his design; but the foot in garrison suspecting that if they were deserted by so great a part of their strength they should all be put to the sword, opposed, and put an end to the attempt.



reign of king James I. In 1661 it was purchased by John Barrington with 600*l.* left by John Gobert, esq. for charitable uses, and is now in the same owner as the last-described manor.

The mansion-house to the manor of FRIER'S-GRANGE stands about a mile and a half south-east from the church. It is called Frier's-Grange from its having belonged to Tilty-priory, in which it continued till the suppression of monasteries, when king Henry VIII. granted it, among several other estates, to Charles Branden, duke of Suffolk, who in the year 1538 sold it to Robert Trappes. It belonged afterwards to a family surnamed Stokes, who lived here for some generations. One of them alienated it to — Day, whose descendant, Edward Day, a ship carpenter, sold it to Jacob Houblon, esq. of Great Hallingbury, and it is now in his son Jacob Houblon, esq. of the same place.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory for a very considerable time was appendant to the chief manor, but hath been several years sold away from the same.

Eudo Dapifer gave the whole of his tythes here to his abbey of St. John in Colchester: and Alberic de Vere gave to his priory of Earl's-Colne, the whole tythes of his demesnes here, and the church with it's appertenances; which last grant was confirmed by Alberic earl of Oxford, and William de Mandeville,

his

his grandson. Hugh, son of Geffrey, took this church from the monks, but restored it afterwards, and gave four acres of land to expiate his sacrilege: however these grants did not take effect; for this church continued a rectory with all its tythes.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is small, of one pace with the chancel, tiled. At the west end, in a small wooden turret, with a shingled spire, are three bells.

AYTROP RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT AND PATRON.

Thomas Smith, B. A. 1734.

LEADEN RODING, or PLUMBEA,

**A**DJOINS to Aytrop Roding upon its south side, and is separated from White Roding by the river Roding. This parish, which is computed to be about five miles in circumference, is situated from Ongar about seven miles; from Chelmsford ten; from Dunmow seven; and from Braintree fifteen: the houses herein not exceeding twelve in number, of course but little business besides husbandry is carried on. In a place called Leaden Wash is a bridge rather singular in its construction, called the turn-bridge, which being placed to accommodate  
foot

foot passengers across a watery road, is made to turn to let the carriages pass, and without any great difficulty is replaced.\* From whence this parish was distinguished by the name of *Roding Leaden*, or *Plumbea*, we are not certain: historians have conjectured that it was from this church being leaded before the rest were: however this does not appear, as at present both church and chancel are tiled. At the time of the general survey William de Warrenn held this parish, in which is only one manor: the mansion-house to it stands a small distance from the church-yard. This manor was granted by John earl of Warrenn, among others, to Edward Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, from which time it became vested in that family, of whom it was held by the families of Blount, Dorewood, and Waldegrave. In 1637 we find it in the Everard family, and afterwards in that of Brand, in which latter it continues, being now the property of Thomas Brand, of the Hide, near Ingatestone, esq.

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\* We present our readers with the following remarkable instance of the force of natural affection, and of uncommon resolution in a young and tender mind viz. On the second of December, 1768, James Gower, a child of three years of age, in company with his sister aged eleven and another girl twelve years old, went on this foot bridge during a great late flood, and his foot slipping, he was carried away by the current, and drowned. His sister instantly plunged into the stream, with a view, as desperate as 'twas ineffectual, to save her helpless brother. The poor girl sunk twice, and was almost expiring, when the stream carried her to that part of the shore, to which her companion had run in the agony of her distress; and who happily had presence of mind and strength sufficient to save her by catching hold of her clothes.

Church,

CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was given by William de Warrenn, afterwards earl of Surry, to the priory of Castle-acre in Norfolk, founded by him in 1085. The advowson continued in that monastery till it's suppression, when it came to the crown, in which it hath continued ever since.

The church is small, of one pace with the chancel, both tiled. At the west end, in a wooden frame, with a shingled spire, are three bells.

In the chancel is this epitaph :

Under this stone lies buried the body of that faithful minister of Christ John Jackson rector of this parish, who was buried March 16, 1682. Also the body of John Jackson his nephew who was bachelor of arts, buried July 4, 1682, aged 20.

In the chancel, upon the ground, is an epitaph for

The Rev. Samuel Hunter, M. A. late rector of this parish, who died December 1, 1732, aged 73 years. Elizabeth obit March 26, 1726.

LEADEN RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

Rev. Mr. Gordon.

PATRON.

The King.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

£. 12 13 4

TENTHS.

£. 1 5 4

VOL. III. No. 33.

N N

WHITE

## WHITE RODING

**L**IES westward of Leading Roding, is distant from Hatfield Broad Oak about twomiles and a half; from Harlow, Bishop's-Stortford, and Ongar, about eight miles each; and from Chelmsford and Dunmow twelve miles each: a good road leads through the parish to Hatfield: here are few houses, but those in general pretty neat: the situation is high, healthy, and pleasant; the soil a strong rich clay; and the chief employment of the inhabitants is husbandry. This parish is supposed to have taken the name of *White Roding* from the whiteness of the church when new, many churches having been so denominated from the like circumstance; and indeed the church is at present so clean and neat both in the inside and outside, as still to deserve the same appellation. William the conqueror, at the time of the general survey, had this parish as part of his demesnes. The chief manor herein is promiscuously called the manor of *White Roding*; and *Marks*, from ancient owners; and here is another manor called *Maskels Bury*.

**WHITE RODING BURY** is not far from the church; but the house, called *Marks*, stands at some distance north from the same. This manor was held for a very considerable time by the service of keeping the

lanar



lanar falcons or hawks, for heron-hawking, and a greyhound trained to make a heron rise, from Michaelmas to the purification, for the king's use. Under this tenure the families of Merk, Hastings, Cufance, and Longeville held it : we find it next in the Queneton family, and afterwards in those of Grene and Browne ; the Everard family was its next possessor, from which it passed to Robert Summer, esq. and it is now in — Hookam, esq. of Broad-streer, London.

MASKELS-BURY has a mansion, distant from the church about a furlong, south-ward. This seems to have been originally part of the manor of White-Roding, from being held of the like service of keeping greyhounds for the king. The families upon record, who have enjoyed this estate are those of Broke, Fresteling, Pikenham, Hende, Belknapp, Cooke, Cotton, Poyntz, and Abdy, in which last family it continues, being the property of Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, of Albans, bart.

The manor of MORELL was formerly a parish of itself, the church remaining, though converted into a pigeon-house, is one proof of it ; but it has been united to the parish of White Roding for a considerable time past, and still continues as a hamlet to it. At the time of the general survey by the conqueror, this manor belonged to Richard Fitz-Gislebert, ancestors to the earls of Clare. We find it afterwards in the noble family of Stafford, earls of Stafford. In 1507 Andrew Prior held the manor of

Rothing Morell, otherwise CAMES, of Edward duke of Buckingham. The family of Prest seem next to have had it. From the time of king Charles I. this estate has been in the Luther family, in which it still continues, being the property of John Luther, esq. one of the present representatives of this county in parliament, who hath likewise three other farms in this hamlet.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was appendant to the manor of White Roding, till it was alienated from it by the Browne family; since then it has been in divers hands, and belongs now to Miss Jones.

The parsonage is a good convenient house, moated almost round, and hath between fifty and sixty acres of glebe land belonging thereto.

The church of White Roding, dedicated to St. Martin, is a fair building, much exceeding all the rest of the Rodings. It may be seen a great way round; is of one pace with the chancel, the whole leaded, and in very good repair. A large square tower, embattled, at the west end, contains five bells; upon the tower is a lofty spire, leaded.

In the church is only one monument, which is a very neat modern one, affixed against the north wall; and which contains the following inscription:

In a Vault beneath this Marble  
are deposited the Remains of  
The Rev. JOHN MARYON, A. M.

Rector of his Church :

Who was born at White Roding the 18th Day of April 1692,  
And departed this Life the 17th Day of November 1760,  
in the 69th Year of his Age.

Of whom it may with great Truth be affirmed,

That his whole Life and Conduct

were a continual Recommendation of the Doctrines he taught.

The Innocence and Simplicity of his Manners,  
his constant Patronage and Protection of the Poor,  
and his unfeigned Piety,

Rendered him an Example well worthy of Imitation.

He was eminent in the Practice of all the social Virtues :

And his Behaviour as a Gentleman, a Magistrate,  
And a Minister of the Gospel, made him justly esteemed.

Notwithstanding he was blessed

with a very considerable temporal Estate

and might have attained to the highest Ecclesiastical Dignities,

No Inducement could prevail on him

to change the Place of his Residence,

or trust the Charge committed to him to the Care of another,

for he continued here near 40 Years in a diligent

and faithful Discharge of every Pastoral Duty :

That the many Virtues of so worthy a Relation

and so sincere a Friend may be transmitted to Posterity,

JOHN JONES, Esq. and MARGARETTA MARIA, his Wife,  
have caused this Monument to be erected to his Memory.

In the same Vault lie also the Bodies of

Jane, the Wife of the above-mentioned John Maryon,

and of Waller and John their Sons,

who both died in their Youth.

Also the Bodies of the Rev. Joseph Maryon, sometime Rector of this Church,

And Margaret his Wife, the Parents of the said John Maryon.

White

## WHITE RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT

William Cheere, B. L. L.  
1762.

PATRON.

Miss Jones.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS

£ 10 12 6

TENTHS.

£ 1 1 3

## MARGARET RODING

**A**DJOINS to the south side of Leaden Roding, and to the west side of Good Easter, being distant from Chelmsford between eight and nine miles; from Ongar between six and seven, and from Dunmow between seven and eight; and in circumference is reckoned about six miles. In this parish are but few houses: the inhabitants are supported by husbandry: the soil here is a fine clay. It is called *Margaret Roding*, from St. Margaret, to whom the church is dedicated. The manors herein are those of Roding-Margaret, and Barnets, and the manor of Marks.

The mansion-house of the former, which stands at the east end of the church-yard, is called Olives and Garnet's, from some ancient owners; and by some it is vulgarly called Garnish-hall. This estate belonged very early to the noble family of De Vere earls of Oxford, under whom it was held by various families.

families. We find it in the Lee or Leigh family from the year 1390 to 1538, when it passed by marriage to the family of Alein, one of whom, in the year 1672 sold it to John Godbould of Terling, esq; in whose posterity it hath continued ever since,

The manor of MARKS, or MARCAS-FEE takes its name likewise from ancient owners; the mansion-house stands about a mile north from the church. This manor seems to have been originally a chapelry, independent from the church here, and belonging to Standon Marci; the parishioners of which have imbounded part of it within the perambulation of their parish of Standon in rogation-week, and it pays the tythes of that part which they imbound to the rector of Standon. But this is no certain proof of it's being within that parish, and out of this of Margaret Roding; for before the year 1200, those that had tythes at their own disposal could give them to what church they pleased; and by the name, it is most probable that this manor of Marks, and Standon-Marks, or Marci, both belonged to the Mark family. Formerly it had a chapel of it's own standing where the barn now is; institutions to which chapel are recorded in the London registry. King Henry IV. and Walter Skirlaw, bishop of Durham, settled this manor, with appertenances, in 1403, on University College, Oxford, which hath remained possessed of it ever since. Through whose hands it passed before that, appears from the following account in Mr. Smith's



Smith's Annals of University College, published in 1728. "First we have in the treasury the court rolls of " this manor from April 22, 24 Edward I. anno " 1296; but the first deed that now remains sets " forth that Humphrey de Bohun earl of Hereford, " Essex, and Northampton, passed this manor in " 45 Edward III. 1371, to Simon bishop of London, " and Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel and Surry, " Guy Brian, &c. Then Guy Brian, after the death " of several mentioned in the foregoing deed, on May " 15, 10 Richard II. anno 1387, passes the same to " Thomas Arundell bishop of Ely, and to Richard " Waldgrave and others. On Nov. 22, 5 Henry IV. " Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury and Richard " Waldgrave, survivors of the other trustees, pass it " to their excellent lord Henry king of England, &c. " which have both their seals remaining. January 20, " 5 Henry IV. 1403, Joan de Bohun countess of " Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, and Richard " Waldgrave, knight, &c. quit claim the said manor " to Henry king of England, &c. the IV. February " 14, the same king passes the same manor to the " college."

But though the king's name is used with bishop Skirlaw's, yet the bishop was the special benefactor. He was the purchaser of Marks-hall, and procured it to be passed to the king, and from him to the college, in order to avoid the charge and trouble of an inquisition that usually goes before all mortmains, and that the manor might be holden of the king.

CHURCH

CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory hath been all along appendant to the manor of Roding-Margaret, or Garnet's-hall.

The church and chancel are of one pace, and both tiled. A wooden turret, with a spire shingled, contains four bells. The western door hath a neat arch indented, supported by wreathed pillars.

Here is neither any monument nor inscription.

MARGARET RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Richard Prescot, M. A.

John Godbould, Esq:

1762.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 10 12 6

£. 1 1 3

BERNERS RODING,

**V**ULGARLY called Bernish Roding, is the most southern of the six Rodings in this hundred, and the least. It is distant from Chelmsford and from Ongar between eight and nine miles each. It took it's name from Hugh de Berners, who at the time of the general survey held it under Geoffrey de Mandeville.

Here is only one manor, called BERNERS-HALL, the mansion-house of which stands a little

way south from the church, and is partly moated round. The Berners family held this estate from the time of the survey till the year 1388, when Sir James Berners was impeached as one of the evil counsellors of king Richard II. and upon that account was imprisoned and beheaded. His estates being confiscated to the crown, Thomas archbishop of York, and other feoffees, purchased this manor and estate for the use of Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and at the death of that good duke it was purchased of his feoffees for the sum of four hundred pounds by Richard Terrell, of Little Thurrock, whose family enjoyed it for some generations. In the reign of queen Elizabeth it was in the Mordaunt family, one of which sold it to Sir Arthur and Sir Edward Capel. It hath since passed through the families of Thwayts, Barker, and Hanchet, to the present worthy owner Thomas Berney Bramston, esq.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given to the monastery of St. Leonard Bromley near Bow in Middlesex, and the prioress and convent procured the whole tythes and profits to be appropriated to their own use, the cure being supplied by such curate as they hired for a small stipend; so that at the time of the suppression it was a continued curacy or donative, and hath continued so ever since. It's certified value is 12l. yearly.

King Henry VIII. in 1540 granted the rectory and tythes to Sir Ralph Sadleir, who alienated them to

Stephen

Stephen Sampford. Since that time they have passed through the families of Mordaunt, Waylet, Capel, Mead, Ramshaw, Turnidge, Lake, and Jennings, to the present owner, the right honorable lord Harcourt.

The church is a small edifice, tiled. A wooden turret contains one bell.

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## SHELLOW BOWELS

**I**S the next parish southward from Roding Berners, situated from Chelmsford about seven miles and a half, and from Ongar six and a half. It is a small parish, containing but few houses, the inhabitants of which are supported by husbandry. The name in old records is written various ways, and to distinguish it from Shelly near Ongar, which sounds something like it, hath, almost ever since the conquest, had an additional name, as Boells, Jocelyn, Torrell, &c. from those respective families who were at different times owners of it.

Here is at present only one manor, the mansion-house of which lies a little way south-west from the church. In the earliest times this manor belonged to a family surnamed de Bowell, Boell, or Bowles. Soon after Sir John de Sutton appears possessed of it; and gave it to the Jocelyn family of Sawbridgeworth: the Torrell family had it next, from which it reverted again to the Jocelyn family. In the last century it

was in the Wiseman family, of Torrells hall, in the adjoining parish of Willingale Dou; which family was succeeded by that of Foster, Ange, and March: Thomas March, esq. sold it to Thomas Bramston, esq. and it is now in his son Thomas Berney Bramston, of Skreens, esq.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory seldom went along with the manor, but has been in various patrons, as may be seen in Mr. Newcourt's Repertorium. However it is now the property of Thomas Berney Bramston, esq. owner of the manor.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, being ruinous, was rebuilt in the year 1754, by a brief, and the assistance of the neighbouring gentry, particularly of the late Thomas Bramston, esq. It is a small neat brick edifice, as is the chancel, both of one pace: in a cupola at the west end is one bell.

### SHELLOW BOWELS RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Richard Birch, M.A. Thomas Berney Bramston, esq.  
1758.

CLEAR YEARLY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£. 36 10 2

£. 0 15 4

WILLINGEHALL



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## WILLINGEHALL.

**T**WO parishes so called, adjoining to Shellow Bowels, terminate the south end or extremity of this hundred. They are distant from Chelmsford nine, from Ongar five, and from Dunmow twelve miles; and distinguished from each other by the appellations of Willingehall-Dou, and Willingehall-Spain, from ancient owners. At the time of the conqueror's survey they seem to have been but one parish. The two churches stand in the same church-yard, the reason of which nothing now remaining shews: we find some rare instances of the like, particularly at St. Edmunds-Bury, at Sopham in Cambridgeshire, and at Trimnell in Norfolk. The situation of these parishes is pleasant and healthy, their soil of various sorts, well watered; and the houses and inhabitants more in number than in any of the Rodings. Here is not any manufacture carried on, husbandry being the principal support of the inhabitants.

## WILLINGEHALL DOU

IS the largest of the two, and contains two manors; namely, the manor of Willingehall-Dou, and that of Torrels-hall.

WARDENS-

WARDENS-HALL, the mansion of the first-named manor, (about half a mile south from the church) is a large neat bricked edifice, with offices, and other conveniencies necessary for a gentleman's seat; it is ornamented with a delightful garden laid out in a peculiar manner, and with the greatest taste; with fish-ponds, and with a pleasing prospect. The name of this seat is supposed to have been a corruption from Wanton, a family who enjoyed it about the year 1349, and a few years after; from which time the accounts upon record of the different owners of this estate are mostly from conjecture, and not to be relied upon, till we find it in the family of Bedle; then in that of Sampford, which family was succeeded by the Wisemans; from whom it was brought by marriage to the family of Fytche, who in 1597 sold it to Nicholas Brocket, of Sabridgeworth, and Joanna his wife, with an entail to their sons. John, son of Nicolas Brocket, conveyed the premisses to Geoffrey Nightingale; and about the year 1634 they were passed to Robert Cole, esquire to the body of king Charles I. His son Robert Cole succeeded him, and at his death, having no children, bequeathed this estate to his twin-sister, Deborah's son, Sir John Salter, knt. and alderman of London.\* He rebuilt the manor-house of Warden-

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\* Sir John was sheriff of that city in 1735, and lord mayor in 1740. At the expiration of that important office he received the thanks of the common-council on the 22d of October, 'for his just and impartial execution of that high office, and particularly giving this court such frequent opportunities of  
 ' preserving

den-hall, and much improved the roads about it: he was also a benefactor to the churches of Willinge-hall, having built a neat and spacious gallery in each of them, and otherwise ornamented them. After his decease this estate coming to his daughter Selina, she carried it in marriage to William Mills, esq. whose son William Mills, esq. is the present worthy owner.

The mansion-house of the manor of TORELLS-HALL is distant from the church about three quarters of a mile northward. The Torrel family, from whom this estate derives it's name, are the most ancient owners of it upon record, since the general survey; which family was succeeded by that of Jocelyn, one of whom sold it to Richard Wiseman, esq. fifth son of John Wiseman, of Felsted, esq. whose posterity after having enjoyed it for some generations sold it to John Brocket, of the Middle Temple, esq. whose son John, in the year 1718, sold this estate to Charles Blount, of London, merchant, whose son William sold it some time since to John Rooke, esq. of London.

In this parish are distinct constables; one for the township; one for Torrels-hall hamlet; and a third for the hamlet of Birds-green; part of which is in Roding Beauchamp.

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‘ preserving that part of the administration of the affairs of this great metro-  
 polis, that justly belong to it.’ — To which were added, seven days after,  
 the thanks of the court of aldermen, being an especial court, ‘ for his careful,  
 prudent, and impartial discharge of that high office during his lordship’s  
 mayoralty’.

CHURCH,

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory is appendant to the manor of Willingehall-Dou, or Warden's-hall.

The church, dedicated to St. Christopher, consists of a body and chancel, tiled. At the west end is a square tower containing four bells. From the church-yard is a pleasant prospect over all the Rodings.

In the chancel a stone upon the ground hath the effigy of a woman inlaid in brass; beneath which is the following inscription in brass likewise:

Here lyeth buried Anne Sackfild widdowe, daughter of Humphrey Torrel, of Torrel's-hall in the county of Essex, esquier, late wife of John Sackfild of Buckhurst in the county of Sussex, esquier, which Anne departed this world the 13th day of April, 1582, and in the yere of her age four score.

Against the east wall of the chancel is an ancient mural marble monument, ornamented: upon a swelling tablet of marble is the following inscription:

Here lyeth the body of that most excellent lady Winifred Wyfeman, wife to Richard Wyfeman of Torrels-hall, esq. and daughter to Sir John Barrington of Hatfield Broad Oake, in the county of Essex, knt. and bart. ob. 7 Maii, 1684.

Below are added some lines of poetry, which are too poorly executed to deserve notice,

On a stone in the chancel upon the ground is the following:

Here lyeth the body of Sir Richard Wiseman, of Torrels-hall, knt. who died 30 June, 1654. And the body of Dame Lucy Wyfeman his second wife, and the daughter of Sir Thomas Griffin of Braybroke in the county of Northampton, knight, who died 29 June 1660.

On

On the north side the chancel is the following inscription upon a mural monument :

Near this place lies buried Robert Cole, patron of this church, and esquire of the body to king Charles I. who died Jan. 13, 1652. And Mary his wife, daughter of Jefferey Nightingale of Newport Pond in Essex, esq. by whom he had (besides three other sons and two other daughters) Edmond; and Elizabeth married to Edmond, son of Thomas Lambert of Boyton in the county of Wilts, esq. Edmond Cole, son of Robert, who died Nov. 28, 1662. Deborah his wife, eldest daughter of Thomas Lambert, aforesaid, who died Dec. 20, 1697, by whom he had children, Robert, his only son, and four daughters, Anne, Hester, Mary, and Deborah. Mary, sole daughter of Edmond, died 1665, aged 17 years. Hester Cole, daughter of Edmond, died 1667, aged 22 years. And John Lambert, son of Thomas Lambert, above-mentioned, who died 2 April 1669.

On another mural monument is the following :

Near this place lieth the body of Mrs. Deborah Salter, wife of the late Mr. Thomas Salter linen-draper of Cornhill, London, daughter of Robert Cole, esq. and Deborah his wife, and twin with her only brother Robert Cole, esq. now of Wardens-hall in this parish. Also Mr. Robert Salter her eldest son, late linen-draper of Cornhill, London, to whose memory this monument is erected in the year 1730. Robert Cole, esq. and Ann his wife who died 1733 are buried in this chancel.

On the ground in the chancel is as follows :

An epitaph consecrated to the memorie of Mrs. Dorothee Brewster late the wife of Thomas Brewster esquier and daughter of Sir Thomas Jocelyn knight.

Beholde heere youth and beauty lyinge

Nurst by Natures hande, and fed ;

And then timely laid to bed ;

From wayful griefs and woful cryinge

Whose life is but a vitale dying.



Yet seeke her not whose name I keepe  
 In the grave ; for she's ascended  
 Earth with earth alone is blended ;  
 And angels singe though wee do weepe  
 Shee wakes in heaven though here shee sleepe  
 Vanish thy blood thy life shall springe,  
 From thy virtues ever death lesse  
 Fame hath breath, though thou be breath lesse  
 My pen thus impes thy praises winge  
 Which stones shall speak and time shall singe  
 Ob. 27 Junii 1613. Devofo Christopheri Brooke.

Upon the south side of the chancel is an ancient stately monument, in which is seen the whole length figure of a man, in a cumbent posture, his head reclining upon his left hand, which rests upon a pillow ; he is represented as dressed in his armour : behind this effigy is the following Latin inscription :

Robertus Wiseman de Torre's in com. Essex, eques auro  
 Richardi Wiseman armig. supra nominati primogenitus filius, &  
 hæres, vir generosissimus corporis & animi dotibus ornatus, pius,  
 candidus, quadratus, litis expers, sibi & suis constans, Philodelph.  
 Philomus. Literar. & Literat. Patron opt. vicinis amicabilis, socia-  
 bilis, hospitalis egenis & beneficus, omnibus æquus. Summam  
 existimationem & benevolentiam, ob facetum ingenium felicem me-  
 moriam suavem & innocuam conversationem consecutus cum corporis  
 castitatem quinque supra sexaginta Annorum cælibatu comprobasset, &  
 valetudine integerrima vixisset, Animam sponso suo Jesu Christo  
 pie & placide reddidit atq; hoc dormitio quod ipse vivens se  
 mortuum designavit, in spe resurrectionis ad gloriam requiescit  
 desiderium sui omnibus bonis relinquens. Ob. 11 die Maii, 1641,  
 ætat 65.

## In English :

Sir Robert Wiseman, of Torrels, in the county of Essex, first-born son and heir of the above-named Richard Wiseman, esquire, a man of a very good family, well accomplished both in body and mind, pious, sincere, just, peaceable, steady to himself and friends, a lover of his brethren and of the muses, an excellent patron of learning and learned men, friendly, sociable and hospitable to his neighbours, beneficent to the poor, just to all, having acquired the highest esteem and good will for his chearful disposition, happy memory, pleasant and innocent conversation—having shewn his chastness of body by a celibacy of sixty-five years, and having lived in a state of perfect health, piously and calmly resigned his soul to Jesus Christ his spouse, and rests in this tomb, (which, whilst living he fixed upon to be deposited in when dead) in hope of a resurrection to glory. His Death is lamented by all good men. He died on the 11th day of May 1641, aged 65.

Above and below this inscription are some others, but they contain not any thing remarkable. Over this monument are suspended several helmets, banners, &c.

Over the south door of the chancel is a mural monument, with this epitaph :

H. S. E.

Johannes Salter eques  
tam fide et integritate  
quam solertia industriaque  
rebus mercatoriis

in quibus diu multumque versatus est  
decus et præsidium

per varia in civitate London munera  
ad prætoriam demum evectus provinciam,  
eandem summâ cum dignitate  
felicissime administravit

Anna Humphredi Brook, M. D. filia  
(Ex quâ natam unicam felinam reliquit)

optimi et desideratissimi conjugis memoriam

hoc marmor sacrum esse valuit

ob. Jan. 1mo. A. S. 1744, ætat. 60.

In English thus :

Here lieth

Sir John Salter, knight,

who, to mercantile affairs,

in which he was long and much conversant,

was both an ornament and protection,

as well by his fidelity and integrity,

as by his skill and industry :

he, after having passed through various offices

in the city of London,

was at length advanced to that of lord mayor,

which he very happily discharged,

with the greatest dignity :

*Ann*, daughter of Humphrey Brook

doctor of physic,

(by whom he had *Selina* an only daughter

who survived him)

caused this monument to be erected

in memory of a husband

truly good and valuable.

He died Jan. 1st in the year of his salvation 1744.

aged 60.

On the same monument :

Dame Ann Salter

ob. March, 1752, ætat 67

*Selina* Mills

ob. 26 Jan, 1764, ætat 43.

In this church are likewise epitaphs for each of the following persons :

Mrs. Dorothy Jocelyn, wife of Thomas Jocelyn, esq. She died  
May 17, 1602,

Sir

## WILLINGEHALL DOU. 301

Sir John Salter, knt. alderman of Cornhill-ward in the city of London. He died June 1, 1744.

Mrs. Ann Cole, late wife of Richard Cole, esq. of Warders-hall, who died Nov. 28, 1752, aged 75.

Robert Cole, esq. who died Aug. 21, 1733, aged 81.

### WILLINGEHALL DOU RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Marshall, M. A.

William Mills, esq.

1753.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£ 16 0 0

£ 1 2 0

## WILLINGEHALL SPAIN

**W**AS so named from the ancient family of Spain or de Ispania, who had Spains-hall in Great Yeldham, and in Finchingfield. Here are two manors, namely, Willingehall Spain, and Mynchens.

The mansion of the first-named manor stands about half a mile east from the church, upon the right hand in going thence to Ingatestone. At the time of the conqueror's survey this manor belonged to Alan Fergent, and his under-tenant Hervey de Ispania. It was one of the three knights fees which Alan the savage gave to Alberic de Vere by the title of William de Ispania, from which time it was holden of the earls of Oxford. The families upon record through

through which it has passed since that time are those of Monchency, Grey, Spice, Fortescue, Bradbury, Leveson, Joscelyn, and Wiseman, and thence to the Brockets, in whom it still continues, being the property and residence of William Bocket, esq.

The manor of MYNCHONS hath a mansion about a mile south from the church. This manor originally belonged to the Scroop family: we find it afterwards part of the possessions of the monastery of Clerkenwell; but by whom it was granted to them is not recorded. At the suppression it was given to Sir Richard Riche, and in 1562 was alienated to John Waylet. In 1578 it was in Edward Tomlinson and Anthony Page: it was afterwards in the family of Nicholas, Shaw, and Hammond, and belongs now to Mr. Lynn, of Spitalfields.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given by William de Ispania to the priory of St. Laurence at Blackmore, for the health of the souls of his father and mother, of himself and his wife. A vicarage was soon after ordained by Fulk Bassett, and the profits of the living divided between the convent and vicar, who was thenceforth nominated by the bishop of London, and presented by the priory. At length the prior finding the vicar's income, which was only five marks a year, too small, they petitioned bishop Baybroke that the ordination of the vicarage might be annulled, and the whole profits go to a rector, reserving to the convent a pension



pension of forty shillings a year, to pray for William de Spain and his relations. Coming to the crown at the time of the dissolution, it hath remained in it ever since, but the nomination still rests in the bishop of London.

The church is small, and stands in the same church-yard as the other : it is neat, and of one pace with the chancel, which hath an elegant altar-piece, the gift of William Bocket, esq. In a small wooden belfry are two bells.

In the chancel against the south wall is a small monument, singular in it's construction, being of vellum framed with wood, inclosed by a wooden door, on the outside of which is painted the arms of the Bewfies. Upon opening the door an inscription on vellum gives an account of 'the time of the lives and deaths of the children of Edward Bewsey, D. D.\* and Jane his wife, which were nine in number';—in the midst of which particulars are the following lines.

Those eagles† brought Bewfies antient bloode  
From France to Springfield, and from thence to Spaine,  
Attend his offspring here whose hopeful budd  
Deaths frost has nipt, whom earthly fate have slaine  
Six blossoms here lie shaken from the tree,  
Where eagles frequent are dead bodies bee.

To which is added the following description of, and descant on, their coat of arms ;

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\* Dr. Bewsy, who was rector of this parish, died in 1642.

† Alluding to the eagles, which is part of the family arms.

As in lions paw their rites to maintaine  
 Shewes that earth they have left in heaven to rayne  
 Their shrowd impaled coate, with garland sweete  
 For virgins sayre, full of grace most meete  
 Cheveron red, mournful fess, with sable tye,  
 Of purpose are their tombe to bewtisyfe  
 Eagles, croflets, cheke golden scallop shell  
 Shews that grace oft in earthlie mould do dwell  
 Good reader then what here inclo'd you see  
 Like laws of Meedes let never altred bee.

On the ground within the communion rails is the following on a table of brasse;

Here lieth Joseph Kello, being 13 years of age, he departed this life the last day of September, 1614 he was sone to Mr. Bartholomew Kellow, minister of Christ Evangall and parson of this parish.

This happy childe adorn'd with gift of grace

His choice was dissolution

His song with Simeon depart in peace

Unto Christ's heav'nly mansion.

The effigy of the child was on the same stone in brasse, but is torn off.

On another tomb stone, near the former, is as follows;

Here lyeth Isaac Kello, being 9 years of age, who departed this life 13 July, 1614.—He was, &c. as above.

This godly childe knew his originall

And though right young did scorn base calls of earth

His soule doth flourish in heaven's clistering cell

Because it is a divine plant by birth.

The effigy of this child is likewise torn away.

On the ground within the communion rails is an epitaph for

Penelope

WILLINGEHALL SPAIN. 305

Penelope, daughter of Anthony Nicholas minister of this place, wife of George Falford of London linen-draper. She died in 1667, aged 22.

In the middle pace of the church is an epitaph for

John Markham, late of Pater-noster Row, London, esq. who died Oct. 4, 1757, aged 79, and Elizabeth his wife, who died Ap. 5, 1761.

WILLINGEHALL SPAIN RECTORY,

INCUMBENT.

'PATRON.

S. Hemmins, M. A. The King, at the nomination of  
1770. the Bishop of London.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 7 13 4

£. 0 15 4

C O R R I G E N D A.

In our last number, page 248, we were misinformed in the owner of the manor of MANNOCKS ; it is the property of — Brand, esq. at the Hoo in Hertfordshire, whose father lately deceased ; and not of John Brand, of the Hyde, esq. We received the like misinformation respecting the manor of BERWICK, in page 249.—Mashbury-hall and the estate belonging thereto, mentioned in page 256, 257, was sold some years ago from the family of Petre to that of Bramston ; and it is now in Thomas Berney Bramston, of Skreens, esq.

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T H E  
H U N D R E D  
O F  
O N G A R

**I**S contiguous to that of Dunmow, by which hundred and part of that of Harlow it is bounded on the north; by part of the last-named hundred and the half hundred of Waltham on the west; by Becontree and Havering liberty on the south; and on the east by part of the same liberty and the hundreds of Chafford, Barstable, and Chelmsford. In it's greatest extent from north to south it is about fourteen miles long; and where widest from east to west about seven miles broad: it is, throughout, pleasantly and conveniently situated, all it's parishes being but a small distance from a market town: the soil here and in the Rodings is in general much colder than the soil of the Hundreds, on which account they generally sow a bearded hardier wheat, called revets.

The

The whole is plentifully watered; the river Roding taking its course through the midst of this hundred; the name of which is taken from Ongar, the chief town in it; and is derived from the Saxon word *Aunȝpe*, signifying *The Place*, by way of eminence: it formerly was written *Anȝre*. Anciently this hundred was in the king's disposal. King Henry II. granted it to Richard de Lucy, who had also the honor and castle of Ongar. Maud, sister of Herbert de Lucy, brought it in marriage to her husband John de Ripariis, or Rivers. Her grandson held it of the king at the time of his decease in 1294. John de Rivers, in 1336 enfeoffed John de Havering and his heirs, in this hundred; and in 1339 granted it to Sir John de Sutton, of Theydon-Mount and Wivenhoo in this county; with all its rights and liberties. The latter, in 1348, enfeoffed Ralph lord Stafford and his heirs, in this hundred, with letes, view of frank pledge, and sheriffs-turns, belonging to the same hundred. It continued in his posterity, earls of Stafford, and at length dukes of Buckingham, till 1521, when upon the attainder of Edward it reverted to the crown; and king Henry VIII. granted it to Richard lord Riche: it continued in his posterity for several years; and, upon the partition of the family's estates, was allotted to Sir Henry St. John, who sold it to Philip Fraherne, gent. of whom it was purchased by Sir Eliab Harvey, and it has continued ever since in the Harvey family of Chigwell.



As to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the hundred of Ongar is a deanry, and is in the archdeaconry of Essex.

The parishes within this hundred are in number twenty-six; namely

Cheping Ongar	Greensted
High Ongar	Stamford Rivers
Norton Mandeville	Theydon-Mount
Fifield	----- Gernon
Roding Beauchamp	----- Bois
----- Abbess	Loughton
Laver High	Chigwell
----- Magdalen	Lambourn
----- Little	Stapleford-Tony
Moreton	----- Abbots
Shelly	Navestock
Bobbingworth	Kelvedon-Hatch
North Weald	Stondon.

The parishes of Chigwell, Loughton and Lambourn are within the forest; those of Theydon-Bois and Navestock, partly in and partly out: all the rest are out of the forest.

That there were estates held in this hundred of Ongar and that of Harlow, by the service of attending the *ward-staffe*, is beyond a doubt; the ceremony of which making a considerable figure in records, it will not be improper to insert the following description of it in this place: which description is originally taken from a manuscript account of the rents of the hundred, in the time of John Stoner, (of Lough-  
ton)

ton) who had a grant of it for his life in the 34th year of the reign of king Henry VIII. and which are said to be such as have been executed, done, paid, used, observed, and kept, not only in the time of king Edward III. and Robert Bruce, sometime king of Scots, but also in the time of his noble progenitors kings of England, long before which the Saxons inhabited this realm, as manifestly may appear more at large by ancient records thereof made by Humfry de Bohun, the earl of Hereford and Essex, and constable of England, lord of the said hundred, dated at Pleshy the 10th day of July, in the 11th year of the reign of the same king Edward; as also by divers other ancient records, written in the Saxon tongue.

*Aungr Hundr The order of the gathering and yearly making of the Wardstaff of the king there with the due course and circumstance of the yearly watch, ward, and service royall incident to the same. That is to say,*

First, the Bailiffe of the said libtie, or hundr, shall gather and yearly make the said wardstaffe of some willow bough growing in Abbasse-Rothing wood the Sunday next before Hock-Munday, which shall contain in length iii qrters of a yard, and viii inches round in compasse or thereabout. And hee shall convey the same ymmediately unto the mannor place of Ruckwood-hall in Abbasse-Roding afores'd, where the lord of the said manor for the tyme being shall reverently the same receive into his house, and shall rowle itt upp in a faire fine linnen cloth, or towell, and so lay it upon some pilowe or cushion on a table or cubberd standing in the chiefe or highest place in the hall of the said maner place, there to remaine untill the said bailiffe shall have relieved and refreshed himself. And when the said bailiffe shall see convenient tyme to dep'te he shall convey the same staffe by sunne shineing unto Wardhatch-Lane be-

fides

fides Long-Barnes in Roothing aforefaid, when and were the faid lord of Ruckwood-hall and all and everie other tennant and tenants, land-owners, which by reason of their tenure doe hould their lands likewise by service royall, to watch and wardie the faid staff there upon convenient summons and warning to be given unto them yearly by the faid lord of Ruckwood-hall for the time being, with their full ordinarie number of able men well harnished with fufficient weapons shall attend. Where uppon the lord of Ruckwood-hall shall then and there yearly at his p'per costs and charges, have readie prepared a great rope, called a barr, with a bell hanging on the end of the same, which he shall caufe to be extended overthwart the faid lane, as the custom hath beene, to stay and arrest fuch people as would pafs by. Att the end of which faid barr, not farr from the faid bell, shall be laid downe reverently the faid staffe upon a pillowe, or cushion, on the ground; which done, forthwith the faid bailiffe shall feverally call the names of all the aforefaid tenants, land-owners, who shall present their faid ordinarie number of men accordingly. Then shall the faid bailiffe in the king our foveraigne lord's name straightlie charge and comand them and everie of them to watch and keep the ward in due filence, foe that the king be harmlefs and the countrie scapelefs, untill the funne arriſing, when good houre shall be for the faid lord of Ruckwood-hall to repaire unto the faid staffe, who in the prefence of the whole watch, shall take the ſame ſtaffe into his hand, and ſhall make uppon the upper rind of the ſame with a knife a ſcore or notch, as a marke or token, declaring their loyall ſervice done for that year in this behalf. And foe ſhall deliver the faid ſtaffe unto the bailiffe, ſending it unto the lord, or land-owner, of the manor of Fiſfeild, or unto the tenant reſiant, ſaying this notable narracon of the wardſtaffe hereafter written in the Saxon tongue; which done, they may hale up the faid barr, and depart at their pleaſure.

The tale of the wardſtaffe.

Iche ayed the ſtaffe by lene.  
 Yane ſtoffe Iche toke by lene  
 By lene Iche will tellen  
 How the ſtaffe have I got

Yoolle

# ONGAR HUNDRED.

311

Yotlie staffe to me com  
 As he houton for to don  
 Faire and well iche him underfingt  
 As iche houton for to don  
 All iche yer on challenged  
 That theareon was for to challenge  
 Namelicke this and this  
 And all that thear was for to challenge  
 Fayer iche him upp dede  
 As iche houton for to don  
 All iche warnyd to the ward to cum  
 That thereto houton for to cum  
 By sunne shining  
 We our roope yeder brouton  
 A roope celtan as we houton for to don  
 And there waren and Wakedon  
 And the ward foe kept  
 That the king was harmeles  
 And the country scapelefs  
 And a morn when itt day was  
 And the sun arisen was  
 Faier honour waren to us toke  
 Als us houton for to don  
 Fayre on the staffe wee scorden  
 As we houton for to don  
 Fayre we him senden  
 Hether we howen for to sende  
 Andz if their is any man  
 That this Witt siggen can  
 Iche am here ready for to don  
 Ayens himself iche one  
 Yother mind him on  
 Yender midtyyn feren  
 Als we yer waren.  
 Sir by leave take this staffe  
 This is the tale of the wardstaffe.

The

The Munday following, called Hock-Munday, the said staffe shall be presented yearly unto the lord and owner of the manor of Fifeild for the time being, or his resident, who shall ymmediately unfold the clothes it is wrapped in, that it may appear by the score made thereon how the aforesaid lord of Ruckwood-hall and other tenants, which by reason of their tenures of their lands, owe suite and service to watch the said staffe at Abbafs-Roding aforesaid have done their watch and service royall accordingly the night before, Then shall he clothe it again, lay it in order, and use it in every degree as the lord of Ruckworth-hall hath done, &c.

This is called Abbafs-Rothing watch.

N. B. The watch is kept at the crofs with a hand, at the Three Wants in Fifeild.

Tuesday following it is carried to the lord of the manor of Nash-hall in High-Ongar, who, &c. as before.

This is called Stondon watch.

N. B. The watch is kept at Horrelsford, als. Hallsford.

#### Navestock Watch.

Wednesday following the same is yearly presented to the lord of the manor of Loft-hall in Navestock, &c.

The watch is kept in Three-Wants-Lane.

#### Stapleford-Abbots Watch.

The Thursday following the said staffe shall be yearly presented to the lord of Battels-hall, &c.

Watch kept at Piffingford-Bridge.

#### Lamborne.

Fryday following the said staff shall be yearly presented to the lord of the manor of Lamborne-hall, &c.

The watch is kept at a crofs in the middle of the town of Abridge.

#### Chigwell.

The Sunday following the staff shall be presented to the land-owners of Loughborrow, &c.

The watch kept at the crofs against the church.

Theydon-



## Theydon-Gernon.

The Monday following the staff shall be presented to the lord of the manor of Gaynes-Park-hall, &c.

The watch kept at Webbis-Crofs in Theydon-Gernon.

## Moreton.

The Tuesday following the said staffe shall be yearly presented to the lord of the manor of Blake-hall, &c.

Watch kept in the midst of the town of Moreton.

## Maudlin Laver.

The Wednesday following the staffe shall be presented yearly unto the lord of the manor of High-Laver, &c.

Watch at Poole.Lane end in Maudlin-Laver.

The ceremony of the watch in each parish I have omitted, being the same as in Abbasse-Rothing. I have also omitted the number of watchmen in each parish.

This procession seems to have been a yearly muster of fencible men who were appointed to guard the hundred against murthers and robberies, for both which it was liable to pay a fine. If by preventing these the king receives no harm, as in the loss of a subject, or the felonious breach of his peace, the subject escapes a fine, otherwise due for suffering a murtherer or thief to escape.

The ceremony began at Abbasse-Rothing, as at the extremity of the hundred, went on to Chigwell the other extreme, and returned to High-Laver which was in the neighbourhood of Ruckwood-hall. At one of these two manor-houses we may suppose it deposited, with due regard to royal authority.

What we learn from records concerning the design of this ceremony of the ward-staff, is, that it was to represent the king's person and to keep the king's peace. Some lands were held by the service, of finding two men to watch with the ward-staff; of keeping the ward-staff; and of paying ward silver, and doing white service at the ward-staff. To conclude, this ward-staff, was to be carried through the towns and hundreds of Essex, as far as a place called Atte wode near the sea, and be thrown there into the sea. This custom hath been long neglected.

## O N G A R.

**H**ERE are two contiguous parishes so called, now distinguished from each other by the appellations of *Cheping Ongar* and *High Ongar*; the former of which is frequently called only *Ongar*; but the latter is seldom distinguished in any other manner than by the name of *High Ongar*.

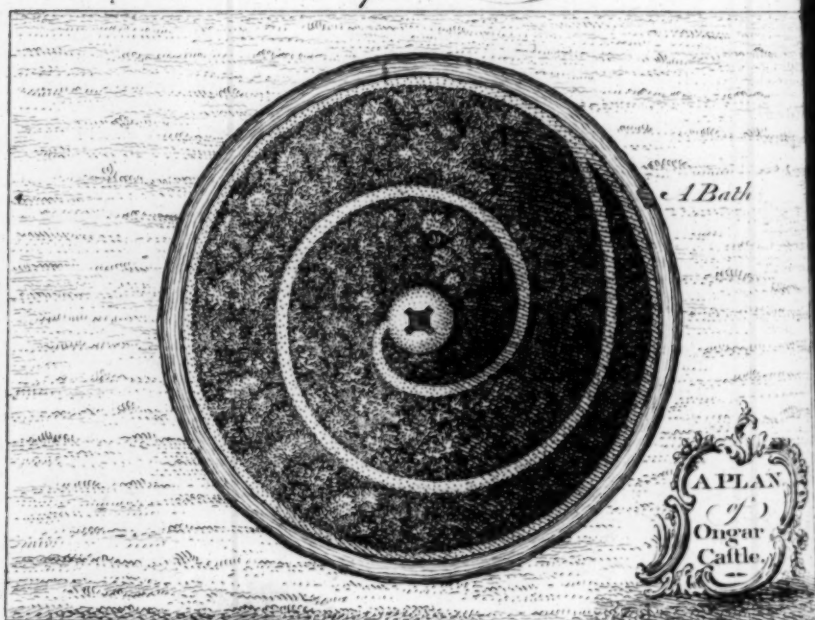
## ONGAR, or CHEPING ONGAR,

HAVING given name to the hundred, claims our first notice. It stands upon the river Roding, is distant from London twenty-one miles; from Romford twelve; from Brentwood and Ingatestone eight miles each; from Chelmsford twelve; from Dunmow, Bishops-Stortford, and Waltham-Abbey fourteen each; and from Epping eight: it consists chiefly of one street of pretty good houses, of which those belonging to Mr. Dore, Mr. Lenham, and Mr. Boodle, are the principal: but a house, near the church, belonging to Richard Bull, esq. is superior to either of them. It has been a market town for many years, on which account here are some good inns: the market is now kept weekly on Saturdays, but formerly was held on Tuesdays; the market-house for the corn trade is on the right hand in going from Chelmsford to London; and another market-house on the left hand is for the accommodation of the sellers of butter, poultry, eggs, &c. over which is the school-house. The traffic of this town, except on market days, is  
very





*A View of Ongar Castle, belonging  
to Capt. Moling.*



*J. Chapman L<sup>d</sup> Surveyor Del<sup>d</sup>*

*J. Ward Sculp<sup>t</sup>*

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very trifling, and indeed at those times not to be boasted of, the neighbouring markets of Romford, Epping, and Chelmsford, engaging the principal business of this part of the county. Here are likewise two fairs annually, the one on Easter Tuesday, the other on the day after the feast of St. Michael, both of which fairs are for toys and hiring of servants. A stage coach goes from this town to London, and returns from thence three times a week in the summer, and twice in the winter. The appellation of *Cheping* is used sometimes to distinguish it from the other; and is derived from the Saxon word *Deaping*, *buying*. Sometimes in old records it is called *Ongar ad Castrum*, from a castle built here by Richard de Lucy, which was situated on the top of a high artificial hill, and surrounded by a large moat; which with several other moats, composed the fortification; but the castle growing ruinous, was taken down in queen Elizabeth's reign by the then owner, William Morrice, esq. who in the room of it erected a very strong handsome brick building, three stories high; which by reason of its lofty situation, prospects, and beauty, excelled any place in this county. But this building was demolished by Edward Alexander, esq. who in 1744 erected instead of it, a large handsome summer house embattled: it stands at a small distance north-east from the church, is surrounded by a deep and wide moat, and ascended by a steep winding walk,\* arched over

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\* See the copper-plate.



most of the way with trees, shrubs, &c. The room is roofed by a beautiful dome leaded, the top of which is ascended by a pair of steps, and over the embattlement the spectator is presented with a rich view on all sides: to the east is a pleasing prospect of High Ongar and Stonedon, including the churches of both places, as well as that of Norton Mandeville; to the north is a view of the Easters, part of the Rodings, and some of their churches, with Fifield and it's church; to the west is commanded a prospect of Bobbingworth, Moreton, Greensted, Cheping Ongar, and their churches, together with Forest-hall, the seat of William Stane, esq. and to the south Kelvedon and it's church, Myless, the seat of John Luther, esq. and part of Navestock, the seat of the earl of Waldegrave: in short, the many beautiful scenes displayed from this eminence, are beyond description.

That this was a place of note before the Saxons were masters here, appears from it's ancient buildings. The church is built partly of Roman bricks. The principal road through the forest of Essex led hither from London by Old Ford: ten miles hence is an old Roman camp at Walbury; whence a lane going by Hallingbury church to Stane-street, retains the name of Port-lane, and the adjacent land is called Port-lane-field. The name of Stane-street is preserved in preambulations since the Norman conquest, and said to lead to Colchester. By Ongar might be one road from London to Colchester. The present road thither, by Chelmsford, is of modern make; the more ancient one, towards Braintree, was by Writtle, and it

is highly probable that the Roman way from London was by Ongar and Braintree to Colchester. Several Roman foundations have been discovered in this parish, particularly in the church and church-yard.

At the time of the conqueror's survey the lordship here belonged to Eustace, earl of Bologne, whose grand-daughter Maud carried it in marriage to her husband Stephen earl of Blois, afterwards king of England, whose son William earl of Mortain and Surry gave it to Richard de Lucy, lord of Dis in Norfolk, who rendered his name memorable by the valiant defence he made at Falaise in Normandy, of which place he was governor when it was besieged by Geoffrey earl of Anjou.\* In 1207, Rohais his daughter, succeeded to this estate; after whom we find it in Maud de Lucy, who carried it in marriage to Richard de Ripariis, or Rivers, whose posterity enjoyed it for several generations; from them it passed to Sir John de Sutton, who conveyed it to Ralph lord Stafford, who was succeeded by his son Hugh; and his son Thomas was his successor, whose brothers William and Edmund succeeded him. Humphrey, son of the last, and created duke of Buckingham in 1444, had this lordship among his other considerable estates: being slain at the battle of Nor-

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\* Richard de Lucy got this lordship erected into an honor, on which depended several fees. He was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1056; constituted justice of England in 1162; and intrusted with the office of lieutenant of the kingdom during the king's stay in Normandy in 1166. The priory of Lefnes in Kent was of his founding, where he entered himself a canon regular, and died there Jan. 14, 1173.

thampton in July 1460; and his eldest son Humphrey having been killed at the battle of St. Alban's in 1455, he was succeeded by his grandson Henry earl of Stafford, who being beheaded for attempting to dethrone king Richard III. his estates became forfeited to the crown, in which this manor continued till it was granted by king Henry VIII. to George Harper, esq. who alienated it to William Morice, esq. he was succeeded by his son James,\* and in his posterity it continued till it was sold to Sir Thomas Whitmore, whose son sold it to Thomas Goldburgh, and his son sold it to Edward Alexander, esq. He married Levina, daughter of Sir Levinus Bennet, of Baberham in Cambridgeshire, and had by her Bennet Alexander, esq. who in pursuance of the will of his aunt, Mrs. Judith Bennet, assumed the surname of Bennet. He died in December, 1745, and left his son Richard Henry Alexander Bennet, the present owner of the manor and castle. His widow remarried in 1747 to Richard Bull, esq. before-mentioned.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Joseph King, born in this parish, citizen and iron-monger of London, and buried here in February, 1678-9, gave for charitable uses five houses in this town, to be managed by feoffees; and out of the

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\* He was of the Middle Temple; recorder, and one of the representatives for the borough of Colchester in parliaments 27, 28, 31, and 35 of queen Elizabeth.

rents ten pounds yearly to a school-master for teaching six poor boys till fit to be put out apprentices; one to be put out yearly, and five pounds to be given with him. If none fit one year, then eight pounds to be given with one the next year. If any are fit for the university, five pounds per annum to be given him for four years, and no apprentice to be placed out in that time.—Forty shillings yearly for teaching girls to read.—Twenty shillings to be laid out in bibles for poor families, and when furnished with them, for books of devotion. Ten shillings yearly to be spent in a dinner upon Tuesday in Whitsun-week yearly; and four shillings to the clerk for keeping the board clean on which this is painted.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory hath been all along appendant to the manor. The value of it being but small, the neighbouring church of Greensted was united to it by act of parliament in king Edward VI's reign, but soon separated again. [See under Greensted.]

In 1721 this living was augmented by the purchase of a house and lands, through the interest of the Rev. Mr. Houblon, rector of Bobingworth, who having procured 200*l.* of queen Anne's bounty, and 100*l.* of Mr. Edward Coulston's benefaction, added thereto 107*l.* 2*s.* of his own money.

The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. At the west end, in a wooden steeple with a spire, leaded, is one small bell.

bell. The church is very neat, the gallery of which hath lately been enlarged.

A mural monument on the south side the chancel hath this epitaph.

Hic subtus jacet  
 Nicolaus Alexander Generosus  
 Nuper de Marden-ash;  
 Vir probus, Honestus & Pius;  
 Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ Filius,  
 Observantissimus & Cultor,  
 Uxorem habuit unicam Joannam,  
 Piam, castam, & prudentem,  
 Filiam Stephani Smyth, Armigeri,  
 de Smyths-hall in parochia de  
 Blackmore in Comitatu Essæxiæ  
 cum qua in Connubio Fideli et  
 Affectione Maritali per spacium  
 Quinquaginta Annorum, et ultra vixit:  
 Liberos reliquit superflites  
 Gulielmum, Edvardum, Thomam,  
 Henricum, Annam, Margaretam, et  
 Joannam.  
 Obiit xxix Julii 1714  
 Anno Ætatis suæ 83.

In English :

Underneath this place lieth  
 Nicolas Alexander, gent.  
 late of Marden-Ash:  
 A good, honest and pious man;  
 a dutiful son and true friend  
 of the Church of England:  
 He had one wife, Johanna,  
 a pious, chaste, and prudent woman,

Daughter



Daughter of Stephen Smyth, Esquire,  
 of Smyth's-Hall,  
 in the parish of Blackmore,  
 in the County of Essex,  
 with whom he lived fifty years and upwards  
 in faithful wedlock and conjugal affection.

His surviving children were  
 William, Edward, Thomas, Henry,  
 Ann, Margaret, and Joanna.

He died on the 29th of July, 1714,  
 in the 83d year of his age.

A plain marble mural monument against the north  
 wall of the chancel has this inscription:

Heic sepulta jacet  
 Jana

GOTHROFREDI JONES, Ludi Magistri Ongariensis

Desideratissima Conjux:

Mulier

Justa, Proba, Pia,

Amore erga Deum ferventissimo,

Fide erga Virum inconcussa.

Charitate erga Omnes propensissimâ

Filiolum Unicum

(Nisi forsan & Adolescentulis le

Sub Marito bonis Literis Operam navantissibus

Quos pro suis semper habuit,

Vera Mater habenda sit)

Patri mæstissimo

Legavit moribunda

Ob. Jan. 5, 1717, Ætat 31.

Gothofredus Supradictus hujusque Ecclesiæ Rector

Ob. 14 Die Mensis Augusti

Annoque { Æt. 48,  
 Dom. 1733.

In English:

Here lies buried

Jane

The beloved wife of Godfrey Jones,  
Schoolmaster of Ongar.

A woman,

Just, good, and pious,

Of the most fervent love to God,  
Of unshaken fidelity to her husband,  
Of the greatest love to all mankind.

At her decease she left to her disconsolate husband

An only son

(Unless, perhaps, she may be esteemed

A real mother also to those youths

Who were under her husband's tuition,

And whom she always looked upon as her own.)

She died on the 5th of January, 1717, aged 31.

The above-said Godfrey, rector of this church

Died the 14th day of August

In the year { Of his age 48,  
                  { Of our Lord 1733.

A mural monument against the same wall is placed  
in memory of

Thomas Velley, M. A. late rector of this parish, who died Nov.  
28, 1750, aged 47. Also two of his children, and his mother, late  
wife of Thomas Velley, esq. of Marden Ash.

Within the communion rails, upon the ground, is  
the following inscription on a black marble stone:

Hic jacet Jana D. Oliveri Cromwelli Finchenbrochensis e sedibus  
Huntingtoniensis Equirus balneensis, filia uxor Tobiae Pallavicini  
Armigeri, ex Illustri Nominis illius in agro Cantabrigiensis. Familia  
oriundi, ad Quadragesimum ætatis annum et ferme tertium pertin-  
gens, quod mortale fuit in illa, officio vitaq; functa in hoc pulvere  
deposuit xxiii Martii. Annoq. Christi 1637.

In

In English thus :

Here lies Jane, daughter of the lord Oliver Cromwell, of Finch-  
ingbrook in Huntingdonshire, knight of the bath. She was wife  
of Tobias Pallaucine, esq. of the illustrious family of that name  
in Cambridgeshire. Having almost arrived at the forty-third year  
of her age, and having finished her duty as well as life, she depo-  
sited her mortal part in this dust on the 23d of March, and in the  
year of Christ 1637.

Close by the last stone is another, having the fol-  
lowing epitaph :

Here lies the body of that truly noble and religious gentleman  
Horatio Pallaucine, esq. who died May 6, 1648, aged 36.

Here is likewise an epitaph for each of the folow-  
ing persons :

Mr. John King, the donor of the benefaction mentioned in  
page 318, 319.

Rev. Mr. John Hill, late rector of High Laver in this county,  
who died Dec. 14, 1727, aged 83.

Mr. John Campe, late rector, who died Sept. 19, 1720.

Mr. Thomas Campe, son of the above named, who died Nov. 10,  
1719.

### CHEPING ONGAR RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Thomas Wayte, B. A. Richard Henry Alexander  
1750. Bennet, Esq.

CLEAR YEARY VALUE.

TENTHS.

£ 45 17 3

£ 0 12 0

S s 2

HIGH

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## HIGH ONGAR

**S**TANDS upon the east side of Cheping Ongar, is distant from Chelmsford about ten miles, and from Dunmow fourteen. It hath sometimes been called *Old Aungre*, and sometimes *Great* and *Little Aungre*. It could not be stiled *Little* in regard to it's extent, which must exceed that of Cheping Ongar, but that it's lords were inferior. The addition of *Old* is not met with till above one hundred years after the conquest, when William de Monceaux, who got it so named in a charter, had, perhaps as little reason for it as his successors for naming it *high*. The vill consists of but a few houses; the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by husbandry. The parish from Weald-bridge to Norton-heath, is computed to be about eight miles in length; but it's breadth varying very much in different parts is not easily to be computed. The manors, or reputed manors, in this parish are those of Astelyns, Ongar-park, Folyat's-hall, Chevers, Ashe-hall, Wetherspane, Passelow, and Newarks,

The manor of **ASTELYNS**, otherwise *Gapps*, a hamlet in this parish, was formerly an elegant seat, moated round, to which there belonged a park, a lodge, and other suitable ornaments; it was here that Thomas Howard duke of Norfolk is said to have  
concealed

concealed himself when he was charged with high treason for abetting Mary queen of Scots. It is now a mean farm-house, distant from the church about three miles westward; the lands of which lie partly in Bobbingworth and North Weald. It has now neither court or quit rents. At the time of the conqueror's survey it was held by John, son of Waleram; after whom the next possessor upon record was William de Mancell or Monceaux, who was succeeded by the Writell family, which was succeeded by that of Ay-liffe. In 1672 Dr. Baldwin Hamsey, of the college of physicians, London, purchased it, and settled it on that college. The estate contains three hundred and thirty-seven acres.

FOLYAT, or FOREST-HALL, stands near a mile north from the church; it is a neat brick building, the best in this parish, and is the seat of the owner, William Stane, esq. This estate of old belonged to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's. King Henry VIII. having got it into his hands, granted it, in 1544, to William Riggs and Leonard Brown, who alienated it to Sir Richard Riche, and he, in May 1562, sold it to Richard Stane, senior, and Richard Stane, junior, esqrs. in which family it hath continued ever since,

The manor of CHEVERS hath a mansion a mile eastward from the church. It takes the name of Chevers from a family who possessed it about the reign of king Edward III. since when the families upon record who have possessed it are those of Stalbroke,

Pawn,



Pawn, Austin, Holeman, and Stane; in which last family it remains, and is the property of William Stane, esq. of Forest-hall.

The manor of ASHE-HALL hath a mansion about a hundred rods east from the church, by the side of a brook. The Frenles family is the oldest upon record who have enjoyed this estate; after whom no mention is made of any till we find it in the Mildmay family in the reign of king James I. when Sir Thomas Mildmay, of Springfield Barnes, knt. held it by the name of Nashe-hall, by which name it is still distinguished by the inhabitants of High Ongar. Mr. Wallinger had it some time ago, and afterwards Peter Champion, of Croydon, esq. who is the present owner.

The manor of WETHERSPANE is so little noticed by either history or records, that all we can trace of it is, that it belonged in 1614 to Alexander Holman; and was held under him by Dr. Stane. It now belongs to the present occupier, Mr. Bramston Baker. The mansion is about two miles east from the church.

The manor of ONGAR PARK, (the mansion of which is four miles westward from the church) is nowhere contiguous to the rest of this parish, but is cut off from it by Greenstead and Bobbingworth; which gives room for a conjecture, that these two villis were erected out of the woods of Ongar before the conquest. Part of Ongar-park pays tythes to Stamford Rivers, and only three pounds yearly to the

the rector of High Ongar. The oldest possessor of this estate, after Monceaux, is Andrew de Walden, who died in 1352; his grandson Thomas succeeded him, who had for his successor Thomas Botaile, in whose posterity it continued for a considerable time. Humfrey Shelton, esq. is the next owner upon record; whose son John succeeded him. Some years after this manor was purchased of William Minshull, esq. by Thomas Webster, of Copped-hall, esq. who sold it again to the present owner Aaron Franks, esq.

The manor of PASSELOW, the mansion of which is about a mile east from the church, was one of the seventeen lordships given by earl Harold to his abbey at Waltham. The abbey remained possessed of this till the dissolution of religious houses, when coming to the crown, king Henry VIII. granted it (then valued at 210l. yearly) to George Harper, who the same year alienated it to Sir Richard Rich, and it descended to his posterity, earls of Warwick. Upon the partition of that noble family's estate this came to the earl of Manchester. Sir Josiah Child purchased it; from whom it hath descended to the right hon. John earl of Tylney, the present possessor.

The manor of NEWARKS has a mansion about two miles north from the church. The lands of this lordship lie partly in this parish and partly in that of Moreton. How this estate passed till the reign of king Henry VIII. we have no record to inform us. That monarch in 1542 granted it to John Williams and Anthony Stringer, who alienated it to Sir Richard Riche.

Riche. We find it afterwards in the Waylet family, and it is now in William Stane, of Forest-hall, esq.

### Charitable Benefactions.

Mr. John Wyberd, citizen and haberdasher of London, gave 50s. yearly for ever to buy bread for the poor of this parish, payable out of the king's-head inn, at Kerton in Lincolnshire.

Eight poor widows of this parish partake of Mrs. Alice Thompson's benefaction; viz. 5s. each yearly to buy them waistcoats.

Mr. Waller gave ten shillings yearly to the poor here, out of a farm called Farrows.

In 1611 the alms-house in this street, consisting of six tenements, was founded and endowed by the Rev. Dr. Tabor, late rector of this parish, with the sum of ten pounds per annum for ever, to be paid out of a farm called Westwick in the parish of Bradwell in this county.

In 1722 William Peacock of Blackmore, taylor, gave to the poor of this parish twenty shillings yearly, out of the rents of a cottage called King's Ridden in this parish. This gift is distributed by the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, every Christmas-day.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This valuable rectory is a manor, consisting of demesnes and several copyholds\*. It was in

\* See Newcourt vol. ii. page 452.

the crown till king Henry VIII. gave it to Sir Richard Riche, in whose heirs it continued till lately, when it belonged to John Tirvin, esq. and is now in the present rector, the Rev. Mr. Joseph Henshaw.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is of one spacious pace, as is the chancel; and both are tiled. The roof is lofty, arched, and painted with clouds, stars, and a sun rising, in a beautiful manner. The altar piece is very handsome, and the whole of the chancel extremely neat and elegant. At the west end is a square wooden tower containing five bells. Over the tower is a spire of wood, shingled.

A handsome mural marble monument upon the north side the chancel hath this inscription in letters of gold:

Near this Place lies the Body of RICHARD STANE, Esq. who departed this life January the 15th, 1714, aged 84 years. Upon the Restoration of King Charles the Second he was made Justice of the Peace and Captain of the Horse. He married Anne, only Daughter of the Right Reverend John Gauden, Lord Bishop of Worcester, by whom he had Issue William and Richard, Twins. The above William Stane married Alice, youngest daughter of Sir Thomas Abdy, Bart. of Easterford Kelvedon in Essex; by whom he had Issue four Sons and two Daughters. She departed this Life March 11, 1727, aged 65 years.

In the church is a marble stone on the ground

In memory of Francis Spenlove, who died in his Infancy April 4, 1766.

In the chancel, upon a black marble stone on the ground, is the following uncommon epitaph:

VOL. III. No. 34.

T F

When

When a general confusion ushered in by a pretended Reformation, had buried the Protestant Religion and the Liberty of the Subject under the Ruins of Church and State, he left a sad and serious warning to all posterity how they opposed the king and bishops againe then was this house of bondage happily changed for an heavenly Canaan by Richard Carter October 26, 1659.

On the ground is likewise a small brass plate with a Latin epitaph for

Dr. Tabor, late Rector of this parish and of Bradwell juxta Mare, who died April 9, 1611.

On the same ground is likewise an epitaph for each of the following persons :

William Alckorn, D. D. Rector of this parish, who died 16 January, 1700, aged 69 years.

Ann Wakefield, daughter to the above Mr. Alckorne, and wife to Mr. Wakefield, citizen and coach-maker of London. She died Feb. 11, 1696.

Her husband Mr. Jasper Wakefield, who died September 12, 1741, aged 78.

Daniel Joyner, late rector of Hackwell in this county, who died May 19, 1695, aged 59 years.

John Lavender, late rector here, who died April 3, 1670, aged 59 years.

Within the chancel is a stone with a small brass plate inlaid, bearing this inscription :

My house is not made with hands, but æternall in heaven. 2 Cor. v. 1. E. T.

Here



## NORTON MANDEVILLE. 331

Here is likewise another stone with a small brass plate, bearing only as follows ;

That which thou sowest is not quickened unless it die first. 1 Cor.  
xiii. 36. M. T.

### HIGH ONGAR RECTORY.

INCUMBENT AND PATRON.

Joseph Henshaw, A. M.

1733.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

£. 39 10 5

TENTHS.

£. 3 9 0

## NORTON MANDEVILLE

**A**DJOINS to the north side of High Ongar, and is distant from Chelmsford nine miles, from Cheping Ongar two, and from High Ongar one : it is a small parish, containing but few houses, the inhabitants of which are supported by husbandry. It had the name of *Norton* most probably from it's northern situation in respect to Ongar. The addition of Mandeville it took from Ralph Mandeville, to distinguish it from Cold Norton in Dengey hundred.

This parish at the time of the conqueror's survey was held by Humo Dapifer : in 1190 the lordship of Norton Mandeville appears to have been in the dean and chapter of St. Paul's. In 1480 it belonged to

T T 2

Thomas

Thomas Danvers, esq. and was purchased that year by Morton college in Oxford, with the sum of four hundred pounds given them by Thomas Kempe, bishop of London, once fellow of that college : and with the assistance of 93l. 6s. 8d. of the college's money.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

Here is neither rectory or vicarage, a curate being appointed by the impropriator, and licenced by the ordinary. This curacy was augmented in 1743.

The rectory and great tythes were given by Galiena de Dammartin to the nunnery of St. Leonard at Bromley in Middlesex, which nunnery enjoyed them till it's suppression, when king Henry VIII. granted this rectory to Sir Ralph Sadleir, who conveyed it to William Pawne, esq. and it passed from his son William to the Chatterton family, which was succeeded herein by that of Elyott. It belonged some time to Mr. Nicholas, but is now the property of Capt. Searle, who has a neat house in this parish on the right hand side of the road from Chelmsford to Ongar.

Mr. Newcourt believes Norton to have been a chapel of ease to High Ongar, from the account of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's lands, and the state of them taken in 1181, in which it is said, that the parochial duty of the mother church of Great Angre *extended to the neighbouring one of Norton*, for which the rector of Angre received all tythes both great and small out of the whole manor ; [that is, we suppose, out of that part of Newark's which lay in High Ongar.]

Ongar.] But yet, on account of the conveniency of attending christian duties, it paid to the neighbouring church of Fyfhide one sack of wheat and one sack of oats. See Newcourt, page 439, from the register of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. In a wooden turret is one bell. Duty is done here only on the first Sunday in every month.

Here is not so much as one tomb stone either in church or church-yard.

John Bott, B. A. was licenced to the perpetual curacy, in February 1738-9.

## F I F I E L D

**I**S north of the two Ongars, and adjoining to Norton Mandeville; upon the west it is bounded by Beauchamp Roding; on the south by Moreton and Shelley; and on the north by part of Chelmsford hundred. It's distance from Chelmsford and from Dunmow is about ten miles each; from Cheping Ongar three; from Epping eight; and from Harlow eight. The circumference of the parish is computed to be between seven and eight miles. Here are not above ten houses in the parish; one of which, called Pckerells, is a good brick building, defended with iren palifadoes, and has a large garden bricked round;  
it

it belonged to the late Thomas Brand, esq. member for Oakhampton, and is now in his son Thomas Brand, esq. of the Hoo in Hertfordshire. The rectory is a large stately brick building, almost surrounded with a moat, which, with the house, encloses a pleasant garden: and upon Whitney-green distant about half a mile eastward of the church, stands a fair mansion, some time the seat of George Pochin, esq. sheriff of this county in 1700, but which now belongs to Mr. Berwick, linen-draper, of London. Several many curious coins, and other pieces of Roman antiquity have at different times been dug up in this parish, some of which are now in the possession of the Rev. William Lockwood, M. A. rector. A tradition prevails here, that lord Scroop, who was beheaded by king Henry V. at Southampton, had a magnificent seat in this parish, and that the place called Hulme moat is the spot where his house stood: we are further told, that he was buried in the church under a stone in the chancel which formerly had a cross of brass inlaid; on each side of which cross was an ax of brass, inlaid likewise. The name of this parish, in old records, is written various ways; in some it is called *Fifhide* and *Fyfhide*. At the time of the conqueror's survey this parish belonged to Eustace earl of Bologne, and John, son of Waleram. The greatest part of it was afterwards divided into the manors of Fifield, Herons, and Lampets; which last manor is partly in Moreton parish.

The

The manor-house, called FIFIELD-HALL, stands over-against the north side of the church. The owners, upon record, of this estate, since the general survey, are the families of Pharin de Bologne, Fessues, or Fesnes, de Tani, Beauchamp, Brianzon, Hotham: the last of which families was succeeded by Henry lord Scroop, of Masham, whose son Stephen succeeded him and his eldest son Henry being executed in 1415, for his treachery to king Henry V. his next brother, Sir John Scroope, treasurer to the exchequer, succeeded to this and his other estates. It was afterwards in his son Thomas, who was succeeded by a son of the same name, and he had for his successors his three sisters, Alice, married to Thomas Strangeways, esq. Mary, to Sir Christopher Danby, and Elizabeth to Sir Ralph-Fitz Randolph. In 1531 Sir James Strangeways had this manor: it was afterwards in Marmaduke Wyville, esq. who sold it to Sir Richard Riche, and in his descendants it remained till by the death of Charles, the last earl of this family, it came to the female heirs. Of the earl of Manchester it was purchased by Sir Josiah Child, whose grandson, the right hon. earl Tylney, is the present possessor.

The mansion-house to the manor of HERONS, stands near a mile south from the church. This manor was given to Lees priory in this county, but when and by whom is not known. After the suppression of monasteries king Henry VIII. in 1536, granted this, with the priory's other possessions, to Sir Richard



Richard Riche. It belongs now to Thomas Brand, esq. owner of Pickerells, in this parish.

The manor of LAMPETS, of which the mansion-house stands near a mile north-west from the church, either took its name from, or gave name to, Thomas Lampet, an ancient owner, about the reign of king Henry IV. The Writtle family enjoyed this estate for some time. It belonged lately to John Collins, esq. a justice of peace, who resided in it; he died in September 1750, leaving by Mary his wife, sister of Mrs. Binks, of Ongar, an only daughter, Mary, who brought it in marriage to the present owner, the Rev. Mr. Wragg, rector of North Cadbury in Somersetshire.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

An estate in this parish, of the yearly value of about 14*l.* was given by Dr. Walker, rector of this church; which estate is applied to the following purposes: 8*l.* yearly to teach boys to write and read; 20*s.* to find them in paper and books; 20*s.* to find the poor parishioners in pious books; 10*s.* to High Ongar for the same purpose; 10*s.* to the Willingehalls alternately for the same purpose; and 1*s.* every Sunday and Christmas-day to the poor of this parish. The said benefactor gave also two houses; one for the school-master and one for the church-clerk, to which houses there belongs about half an acre of land.

John Collins, late of Lampets in this parish, esq. gave to the poor here, one shilling's worth of bread upon every Lord's day for ever; and Mrs.

Mary

Mary Collins his daughter, in order to secure the same, has conveyed to trustees a certain piece of arable land now called Osborn's Field, being in Moreton ; and has ordered that the overplus arising out of such piece of ground be distributed to the said poor upon Christmas-day, or within a week after, yearly for ever.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The tithes of this parish were given, in the year 1194, to the monastery of Bermondsey, by Roger (de Tany, it is supposed) one of the knights of John Fitz-Waleran, with his lord's consent. In 1107 these tithes were confirmed to that monastery by Maud, wife of Asculph, and her son Graald de Tany, who, at the same time, gave to them this church of Fifhide. However, before the year 1331, this church was taken from them, (but by whom does not appear) and, luckily, before they had got the tithes appropriated to themselves ; ever since that time the rectory hath been appendant to the manor of Fifield-hall ; and is now in the right honorable the earl of Tilney.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a body and two small ayshes, supported by columns arched over : the chancel is only of one pace : between the church and chancel stood the tower, with five bells. This tower fell down some time since. However, a wooden turret, containing the five bells, is erected in it's place : a very curious geometrical stair-case, composed of flints and Roman  
 VOL. III. No. 34.                      U u                      bricks,

bricks, strongly cemented, leads up to the belfry : on one of the bells is this inscription ; *Sancta Catharina ora pro nobis*. In the south wall of the chancel are three arches rising one above another, supported by two columns of grey marble of the Tuscan order : and the frame of the east window is curiously wrought in stone-work.

On the ground of the chancel is an inscription in memory of each of the following persons :

The late virtuous and lamented Mrs. Ann Beverley, who was born on the 18th of August, 1680, and died Sept. 27, 1762, which Ann was the eldest daughter of James, the eldest son of Thomas Beverley, late of Gaynes-park, in the county of Huntingdon, esq.

George Pochin, late of this parish, esq. who died June 16, 1704, aged 70. His wife, who died in 1706, aged 60 ; and his son John, who died in 1725, aged 50.

Thomas Brand, esq. who died Oct. 7, 1718.

Margaret, his widow, who died Aug. 29, 1767.

John Collins, late of Lampets, in this parish, who died Sept. 17, 1750, together with Mary his wife, and their son John.

John Collins the elder, who died Aug. 19, 1729, aged 32, and his wife Mary, who died Feb. 28, 1732, aged 31.

### FIFIELD RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Lockwood, M. A.

John Earl of Tilney.

1753.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 25 7 6

£. 2 10 9

BEAUCHAMP

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## BEAUCHAMP RODING

**I**S a parish of small note, upon the north side of Fifield, and contains two manors; namely, Long Barnes and Frayes.

The mansion-house to the first-named manor stands in a bottom, about a mile north of the church. This estate, in the year 1328, was in the Vere family; and in 1387 it was forfeited to the king upon the attainder of Robert de Vere, duke of Ireland. It was afterwards held of the crown by the families of Weald and Mewes. We find it next in the Gate family, which enjoyed it for several generations; and it became forfeited to the crown again by the adherence of Sir John Gate to the cause of the lady Jane Grey. In 1558 king Philip and queen Mary granted this, with the other estates of Sir John Gate to Richard Weston, esq. whose family enjoyed it for some time, and was succeeded by Richard Courman. In 1635 it belonged to Edward Stokes; next to lord North; afterwards to the Heanage family; and now is the property of William Harvey, esq. a minor.

The manor of FRAYES, has a good mansion-house which lies not far from Long Barnes. This manor was in the Gate and Weston families for a considerable time. We find it afterwards in Mr.

John Miller, who sold it to Mr. Pochin of London, and in his family it still continues, being the property of George Pochin, esq. of Ickleton, in Cambridgeshire.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was originally appendant to the manor of Long Barnes; but hath been separated from it for some years past. It is now in Richard Birch, M. A.

The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, stands upon a rising ground, and is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. In a square tower embattled, at the west end, are four bells.

In the church is only one tomb-stone, which has an epitaph in memory of

John Siday, A. M. who was minister of this parish seventeen years. He died 10 April, 1689, aged 84. Mary, his wife, who was buried May 20, 1664. Elizabeth Randall, her mother; and two of her children.

### BEAUCHAMP RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Wicksted, B. A.

Richard Birch, M. A.

1720

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 16 13 4

£. 1 3 4

### R O D I N G A B B E S S

**A**DJOINS to the parish last described, and stands at the northern extremity of this hundred, distant from Chelmsford eleven miles; from Ongar six; and from



from Epping eleven. It was called *Abless* from a manor in it, and the advowson of the church, belonging to the abbess of Barking. The lands in this parish are of a heavy soil; the houses few in number; and husbandry is the chief support of the inhabitants. The manors it contains are those of Abbess-hall, Rookwood-hall, and Berwick Bernes or Berners.

ABBESS-HALL stands behind the church. This manor continued in Barking-abbey till the time of the suppression, when king Henry VIII. sold it, with other estates, to Robert Chertsey, one of whose successors sold it to Robert Meredith, and he sold it to Robert Long, who in 1549 conveyed it to William Glasscock. In 1592 Tipper and Dawe, the two greedy hunters after concealed lands, got a grant of this, among others; but they seem not to have kept possession of it long, as we find in 1599, it was granted by queen Elizabeth to Richard Glasscock, who conveyed it to Gamaliel Capel, esq. owner of Rookwood-hall, whose posterity, after enjoying it for some generations, parted with it to John Howland, of Streatham, esq. from whom it came to his daughter Elizabeth, and then to her son John duke of Bedford, who in 1739 sold it to Stephen Skinner, of Walthamstow, esq. and his eldest daughter Emma brought it in marriage to the late William Harvey, of Chigwell, esq. and it is now in their son William, a minor.

ROOKWOOD-HALL, a venerable old mansion (to which there formerly belonged an extensive park) stands near a mile south-west from the church, and took

took it's name from some ancient owners. At the time of the conqueror's survey this manor belonged to Geffrey de Mandeville; from which æra we have no account of the subsequent owners of it till 1250, when John Fitz Richard held it under the earl of Oxford. We find it next in the Browne family, in which it continued for many generations, till it became divided between the two daughters and coheirs of Wistan Browne, esq. namely, Catherine, married to Sir Nicolas Waldegrave; and Jane, married first to Edward Wyatt of Ilkham, and afterwards to Gamaliel Capel, esq. In the posterity of the latter this estate remained for a long time, and they were succeeded by John Howland of Streatham, esq. whose only daughter carried it in marriage to John duke of Bedford. His grace, in 1739, sold it, as well as Abbess-hall, to John Skinner, esq. and it is now in ——— Pratt, esq. at St. Ives in Huntingdonshire.

BERWICK-BERNERS is a hamlet in this parish, the mansion of which stands about a mile and a half north-east of the church. A constable is chosen for this hamlet, who attends at Dunmow, which causes it to be reputed within that hundred. It belonged anciently to the noble family of Berners, whence it took it's additional name. The Berners family was succeeded in this estate by that of Capel. It was afterwards in Sir Robert Abdy, bart. who sold it to Thomas Brand, of Fifield, esq. and it now belongs to Thomas Brand, esq. of the Hoo in Hertfordshire.

Charitable

## Charitable Benefaction.

Nicholas Burton, rector of this parish, left a house or forty shillings yearly, to the church clerk.

## CHURCH, MONUMENTS, &amp; INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory seems to have been appendant to the manor of Abbess-hall, and as such in the gift of Barking Abbey till it's dissolution: in 1550 it was held by Ralph Fane; in 1552 by John Gate, esq. in 1579 by William Glasscock; from whom it came to his son Richard, and then to the Capel family. Since then it hath passed through a variety of owners, and is now in the family of Hadden.

The church, dedicated to St. Edmund, is of one pace with the chancel, the whole tiled. A wooden belfry, with a small spire upon it, contains three bells.

Against the left hand side of the east wall of the chancel is an ancient marble monument inclosed by a wooden frame; the effigies of the two persons to whose memory it is erected, are placed in posture of devotion, each of them having a book opened: between their heads is the following inscription:

Loe Honoures Embleme, Vertues Darling, Learninges Favorite  
Noble by Birth, by Life a Sainte, by Death a Blissfulle Wighte.  
His Name importeth Godes Rewarde, then for his last Farewell,  
Let this suffice; he livd and dyd a true Gamaliel.

Here lieth Sir Gamaliel Capel, knt. Sonne of Mr. Henry Capel, Esq. and the Ladye Katherin Daughter of the earl of Rutland. He marryed Jane, one of the daughters and heires of Mr. Westan Browne,

Browne, Esq. by whom he had six Sonnes, viz. Gamaliell, knt. Thomas, Anthony, Henry, Theodosius, and Francis, and three daughters, Mary, Anne, and Mildred. Ob. A. D. 1627, æt. suæ 50.

The effigies of their nine children are placed beneath those of their own, in a posture of devotion.

Against the east wall of the chancel upon the right hand side, is a smaller monument than the one last described, in which is the half-length figure of the lady Luckyn, under a small canopy: she is represented in a studious posture, her head reclining on her right hand, and her left hand holding a book open: behind this figure is the representation of two angels with a crown of glory in their hands, which they are going to put upon her head: on each side and above are various other devices; and below them the following inscription:

To the pretious Memory of that excellent Lady Mildred Lady Luckyn the Wife of William Luckyn, of Little Waltham in Essex, Baronet, youngest daughter of Sir Galamiel Capell, of Roekwoods-hall in Essex, knt. and Dame Jane his Wife, who received the Crown of Glory in the yeare of Grace, 1633, Aug. 23, and of her Age 32, being the happy Mother of eight Children; viz. Capel, Elizabeth, Henry-Mildred, Mildred, William, William, Jane, whereof Henry Mildred the elder, and Mildred the elder, left earth before her. The other five she left to the Blessing of her God, and the tender Care of her Husband.

We bragge no vertues, and we begge no teares  
O Reader, if thou hast but eyes and cares,  
It is enough: but, tell me, why  
Thou com'st to gaze? Is it to pry

Into our Cost ? or borrow ?  
 A Copie of our Sorrowe  
 Or dost thou come  
     To learn to dye  
 Not knowing whome  
     To practise by ?  
 If this be thy desire,  
 Remove thee one step nigher,  
 Here lies a President : a rarer  
 Earth never show'd, nor heav'n a fayrer;  
 She was — but roome denyes to tell thee what  
 Summe all Perfections uppe ; and she was that.

In the middle of the church is a stone with a brasse  
 plate inlaid ; on which plate is this inscription :

On the deathe of Edward Humberstone, gent. late of Cockerells  
 in this parishe, who deceased the first of November, in the 80th  
 year of his age, A. D, 1622. Thomas Humberstone his kinsman  
 hath consecrated this memorie.

Here lyes the corpes of one of gentle blood,  
 Right honest, plaine, free hearted, loving, kinde,  
 Who carse knew ill, but by the use of good,  
 Full of almes deades, of hospitable mynde  
 His yeares were reverend ; and he leste his life  
 In piece of conscience, and in love of man.  
 Few dayes before him dy'd his aged wife :  
 Both like in good merit my equall pen ;  
 Which gives but right, out of the right they gave ;  
 And though their earthly parts with earth be blended  
 Yet shall their memories survive the grave ;  
 Nor are they their, but unto heaven ascended,  
 Thus are they changed, not los ; each to its byrth ;  
 Immortal parts to heaven, and earth to earth.

On the ground of the chancel is this inscription :



Here lieth the body of William Haddon, son of the Rev Henry Haddon, and Elizabeth his wife. He died March 3, 1727-8.

### ABBESS RODING RECTORY.

INCUMBENT AND PATRON.

Rev. Henry Haddon, 1748.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£ 14 0 0

£ 1 9 0

## L A V E R

**I**S a general name here for three contiguous parishes; which are distinguished from each other by the appellations of *High*, *Magdalen*, and *Little*.

## H I G H L A V E R

IS otherwise stiled in records *Great Laver*, and *King's Laver*. It is distant from Chelmsford fourteen miles; from Dunmow twelve; from Epping seven; from Hatfield six; and from Ongar four miles and a half. The soil of this parish is, like that of the neighbouring ones, of various kinds, and here are two good houses; one of which is a large building, in a delightful situation, with a park, gardens, canals, &c. belonging to it, and is the seat of the right. hon. lord Masham. The other is the parsonage. Here  
are

are two manors; namely, the manors of High Laver, and Otes.

The mansion-house to the first-named manor stands behind the church. This manor having descended to earl Eustace's grand daughter Maud, queen of king Stephen, remained in the crown till king Henry II. gave it to William Fitz-Aucher. The abbess of Sr. Sulpicius in Berry claimed the services and homage of the tenants of this manor, as assigned to her abbey by Richard son of Henry Fitz-Aucher; and founded her claim upon a grant of William earl of Bologne, son of king Stephen, who she pretended had given it to her church. At last in 1237 it was agreed between Amicia, the then abbess, and Richard son of Henry Fitz-Aucher, that he should enjoy this manor with appertenances by the service of a fourth part of a knight's-fee, and pay the abbess and her successors four pounds yearly. Afterwards Joan, another abbess, granted this ten pounds rent to Waltham abbey, and thenceforth the Auchers held of the abbot of Waltham. From the Fitz-Aucher family this estate has passed through the families of Ferrers, Writell, Walsingham, Stanlake, Matthews, Beachcroft, and Scawen, to the present owner Samuel lord Mafham, lord of the king's bed chamber, and remembrancer in the court of exchequer.

The mansion-house to the manor of OTES is that in which lord Mafham resides, and is distant from the church about a mile north-west. This estate, according to tradition, took its name from John Otes,

X x 2

who

who with others held the manor of Little Laver of the lord Scales in the time of king Edward II. We find in old records, that this manor was divided about the year 1486; and that part of it belonged to the Sulyard family, and part to that of Pikenham; and that afterwards it was further subdivided. In the reign of king James I. it was purchased by Sir William Masham, knt. whose son William succeeded him herein, and was created a baronet in December 1621. He represented in parliament the burgh of Maldon in 1623, and twice in 1625; the burgh of Colchester in 1640, and was one of the knights for this shire in the long parliament. By his lady Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Francis Barrington, of Hatfield Broad-Oak, (widow of Sir James Altham of Mark-hall in Latton,) he had William his eldest son and heir, who had two sons William and Francis, the former of which dying young, the honor and estate came to Sir Francis, who had so great interest in this county, that he was chosen one of the knights of the shire in 1699 and 1695, and in all the parliaments from 1700 to 1708. By his first wife Mary, daughter of Sir William Scot of Rouen in Normandy, bart. he had eight sons, all of whom died in his life time except the youngest, Samuel, created lord Masham. Francis, the fourth son, left a son Francis, who succeeded to the baronetship upon the death of his grandfather, and died unmarried. Sir Francis had also a daughter Hester, a lady of great accomplishments.—He had to his second wife, Damaris, daughter of Dr. Cudworth,

worth, master of Christ's College, Cambridge, by whom he had a son, Francis Cudworth Masham, esq. who was accomptant-general to the high court of chancery. Sir Francis dying in March 1722-23 was succeeded in his estates by his son Samuel lord Masham. He was in high posts under George Prince of Denmark; and, under queen Ann, had the command of a regiment of horse, and was advanced to be brigadier-general. In 1711, he was cofferer of the household, and created baron Masham of Otes. His lordship married Abigail, daughter of Francis Hill, esq. an eminent Turkey merchant: at his death in October 1758 he was succeeded by his son the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, who had married Herriot, daughter of Thomas Winnyngton, esq.—The family of Masham or Massam was anciently seated in the north part of England; and took it's name from Masham, a village near Richmond in Yorkshire.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was a long time appendant to the manor of High Laver; but hath, of late, passed by sale into several families.

The church, (dedicated to All Saints) and chancel, are neat, both of one pace, tiled. A stone steeple, with a handsome shingled spire. contains three bells.

Against the north wall of the chancel is a plain marble monument, with this inscription;

Damaris Cudworth,

Relict of Ralph Cudworth, D. D. and Master of Christ's College in Cambridge: Exemplarie for her Pietie and Virtue; for studie

of

of the Scripture, Charitie to the Poore, and Good Will to all, lies buried here. She was born October 23, 1623, and died Nov. 15, 1695.

A monument against the south ayfle of the chancel hath the following good character of the person to whose memory it is placed :

Near this place lies the body of Mr. SAMUEL LOW, who after he had faithfully discharged his ministerial office forty-seven years in this parish, departed this life Dec. 7, 1769, aged 79. He was to himself frugal, to his friends beautiful, exactly just, strictly pious, and extremely charitable. Poor widows and children he was a father to living, and, having no issue, made them his heirs at his death, leaving to the Society of Clergymens sons in money 800*l.* and in land above 80*l.* per annum, besides other great legacies to charitable uses; and is gone to receive his reward.

This monument was erected by his executors.

On the ground of the chancel are the remains of a plate of brass, on which is only enough of the epitaph left to inform us, that it was to the memory of Robert Ramsey and his wife Joane.

Within the communion rails is the effigy, upon a plate of brass, of a man and woman; and beneath them the following in old English characters.

Here lieth in grave undre this marbyll harde  
Of John Copto Esquier the dought & heyre by right  
Myrabyll late wyfe of Edward Sulyard  
Coosyn and here of Thomas Flemmyng, knyght  
Who is Vtue worth & Womanly delite  
Remayne shall in Essex in pttuall memorie  
Sith deith hathe her caste owte of the P sent light.

Upon



Upon the ground, on a black marble stone is as follows ;

Sir Francis Masham, bart. ob. 2 March, 1722, æt. 77.

And upon another black stone is engraved ;

Here lies the hon. M. Elizabeth Masham, second daughter of the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, and Abigail his wife, who died Oct. 24, 1724, aged 15.

In the chancel are suspended several hatchments and banners for some of the Masham family.

In the church-yard are four tombs, covered with black marble, on which are inscriptions to perpetuate the memory of

The Right Hon. Samuel Lord Masham, Baron of Oats, who died Oct. 16, 1758, aged 79.

Abigail lady Masham, Wife of the right hon. Samuel Lord Masham. She died Dec. 6, 1734.

The Hon. Major General Hill, Brother of the Right Hon. the Lady Masham, who died on June 22, 1735.

Abigail Hill, Sister to the Right. Hon. Abigail Lady Masham. She died Sept. 15, 1762.

The learned and ingenious John Locke, esq. spent much of his time in the ten last years of his life at Otes, as appears by the dates of his letters. He was treated with the utmost civility by Sir Francis Masham, and his excellent wife Damaris. Here he died October 28, 1704, and was buried in the south side of the church-yard under a black marble grave-stone, inclosed with iron rails ; and on the wall of the church is his epitaph as follows ;

Site,

Siste, viator,  
 Hic juxta situs est Johannes Locke.  
 Si qualis fuerit rogas,  
 Mediocritate sua contentum se vixisse respondet ;  
 Litteris innutritus eousque tantum profuit  
 Ut veritati unice litaret.  
 Hoc ex Scriptis illius discas,  
 Quæ quod de eo reliquum est  
 Majori fide tibi exhibebunt  
 Quam Epitaphii suspecta Elogia.  
 Virtutes, si quas habuit,  
 Minores sane quam quas sibi laudi,  
 Tibi in exemplum proponeret,  
 Vitia una sepeliantur.  
 Morum exemplum si quæras,  
 In Evangelio habes ;  
 Vitiorum utinam nusquam ;  
 Mortalitatis certè (quod profit)  
 Hic & ubique.  
 Natum An Dni 1632 Aug. 29.  
 Mortuum An Dni 1704 Oct. 28.  
 Memorat hæc Tabula  
 Brevi & ipsa interitura.

In English ;

Stop, traveller.  
 Near this place lieth John Locke.  
 If you ask what kind of man he was,  
 He answers, that he lived content  
 With his own small fortune.  
 Bred a scholar, he made his learning  
 Subservient only to the cause of truth.  
 This thou wilt learn from his writings,  
 Which will shew thee every thing else,  
 Concerning him,  
 With greater truth, than the suspected praises

## HIGH LAVER,

353

Of an epitaph

His virtues indeed, if he had any,

Were too little for him to propose

As matter of praise to himself,

Or as an example to thee.

Let his vices be buried together.

As to an example of *manners*, if you seek that

You have it in the gospel;

Of *vices* I wish you may have one no where;

Of *mortality* certainly (and may it profit thee)

You have one here and every where.

This stone,

Which will itself perish in a short time,

Records

That he was born Aug. 29,

In the year of our Lord 1632;

That he died Oct. 28,

In the year of our Lord 1704.

## HIGH LAVER RECTORY.

INCUMBENT AND PATRON.

John Cleeve, B. D.

1734.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 14 1 8

£. 1 8 2

## MAGDALEN LAVER

**W**AS so called from the dedication of the church to St. Mary Magdalen. It lies upon the south-west side of High Laver, and is distant from

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Y Y

Epping

Epping six miles ; from Ongar four ; from Stortford eight ; and from Dunmow fourteen. About the year 1757, as some workmen were ploughing in a field in this parish, called Redmill-shot, (belonging to Mr. John Cozens,) they discovered a stone coffin, the lid and sides of which were four inches thick ; it was two feet and a half deep ; and six feet and a half long ; the lid, which had neither date or inscription, was laid on loose, and when taken off, the bones and the skull entire of the person who was buried in it, were discovered. In the same field several human bones have been ploughed up at different times ; and the inhabitants have a tradition that the church stood here originally ; to strengthen which opinion it is averred, that this field is situated exactly in the center of the parish. Upon enquiry we cannot find any part of the foundation of the church, or of any other building was ever discovered here ; we therefore think it more likely that here may have been a burial ground belonging to the parish, as there are not wanting instances of burial places being at a distance from the church. Here is not any thing else worthy the enquirer's notice ; we shall therefore proceed to take notice of the manor here, namely,

The manor of MAGDALEN LAVER which hath good mansion near the church. This estate at the time of the conqueror's survey belonged to Ralph de Todeu ; after whom the next possessors that we find are Robert de Burnaville and John de Angerville, John de Monpyncon, and Arabella his wife, in the reign

reign of king Henry III. In 1320 it belonged to Humfrey de Waldene. In 1439 it was in Thomas Bataile, whose family was succeeded by that of Cook. In 1536 John Barrington, esq. had it, but it reverted to the Cook family again. In 1619 William Aylet, esq. possessed it; he in 1664 was succeeded by his son, John Aylet, esq. who married Mary, daughter of Ralph Pettus, of Brices in Kelvedon-Hatch.

This must be the same gentleman, who, according to the account kept in his family, was lord of Magdalen-Laver; and, like his father Pettus, was a great sufferer for king Charles I. He spent seven hundred pounds per annum in that service, raised a troop of horse at his own expence, and was in many engagements during the war. The king, in 1646, to shew his approbation of his zeal, ordered an augmentation to his arms, having no other reward to bestow upon him. His coat was, gules, three annulets, a chief argent. The addition was, on a canton, or, the rose of England, proper. Crest, an arm, gules, holding a sword, hilted, or, blade argent. Motto, *Not in vain*. He was one of the commanders in Colchester, at the siege, and was sentenced to be shot, but escaped in woman's cloaths. He was retaken, and purchased his life of the parliament for four hundred and sixty pounds, and had a pardon from them. He received afterwards a commission from king Charles II. to surprise Chepstow castle in Monmouthshire, and to be governor of it. There he was betrayed and made prisoner till the restoration



set him at liberty. It is probable then he took up his residence at White Roding, within view of his late estate. There he might, as Dryden says of Alexander, *Fight all his battles o'er again*, and count his sword drawn NOT IN VAIN, if he had refined his taste enough to prefer the esteem of heroes and philosophers to a comfortable inheritance. This gentleman is not mentioned as a condemned person in our histories. Having escaped his pursuers, their intention might not be proclaimed, though he had intimation of it. It is generally said that no more than three knights were appointed for execution; yet it is plain from *the Authentic Journal of the Siege*, published by one that was in the town, that major Farre was called out with the knights to have been sharer of their fate, if he had not, contrary to custom, ran away.

But to return to the account of the owners of the manor of Ma, dalen-Laver, the next possessor to John Aylet was John Throgmorton, esq. of one of whose family this estate was purchased by William Cole, esq. treasurer of St. Thomas's hospital, and who was sheriff of Essex in the year 1716, and whose brother Henry was his successor. It belongs now to John Cozens, esq.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory hath always been appendant to the manor.

The church, dedicated to St Mary Magdalen, is of one pace and equal breadth with the chancel, both tiled. A wooden belfry, leaded, contains two bells.

Against

Against the east wall of the chancel is a monument,  
with the following epitaph:

Georgii Kindleton, sacrae Theologiae Baccalarii, hujus Ecclesiae  
Rectoris, Fidei Orthodoxae et Ecclesiae Anglicanae propugnatoris  
intrepidi, quidem Scotico fœderi et perduellioni Anglicae multum  
adversatus, ab Ovili et Ecclesiâ hoc, ubi 17 annos manserat de-  
pulsus per 16 Annos adilectâ Ecclesiâ suâ Postea exulavit, Donec per  
Altitonantis hujus Gentis miserationem et miraculosam Regis Caroli  
Secundi restaurationem, ad Ecclesiam suam rediit, ubi post 4 Annos  
ad beatissimas sedes, et caelestia gaudia transmigravit, Cum 61.  
Soles vixisset; cujus Memoriae, amarantissima ejus Conjux, Emma iii  
die Jannarii, Æra Christiana 1667 mœrens hoc stabile marmor  
bene marenti posuit.

In English;

Sacred to the Memory

Of George Kindleton, Bachelor of Divinity, Rector of this Church,  
an intrepid defender of the orthodox faith and of the church of  
England. He, having strongly opposed the Scottish confederacy,  
and the English treason, was driven from this flock and church,  
where he had abode 17 years. He was afterwards banished from  
his beloved Church 16 years, until, through the pity of this cla-  
morous nation, and the miraculous restoration of King Charles the  
Second, he returned to it, from whence, after four years, he re-  
moved to the most blest abodes and heavenly joys, having lived  
61 years. His most affectionate and affected wife Emma, caused  
this marble to be erected to his memory on the 3d of January in  
the year of the christian æra 1667.

On the ground of the chancel is an epitaph for

William Rawlins, late Citizen and Apothecary of London, who  
died November 15, 1702, aged 69. And for Ann, his Sister, who  
died September 16, 1730.

Against the south ayfle of the church is a monu-  
ment of marble, on which is this inscription:

In

In Memory of William Cole, of Magdalen Laver, in the County of Essex, Esq. who died Feb. 24, 1709, aged 22, was this monument erected by his much beloved and affectionate widow Mary Cole, daughter of John Hillar of London, gent.

At the west end of the church are two grave-stones; the one in memory of

Henry Cole, esq. who died September 24, 1760, aged 45 years,

The other of

Mrs. Ann Martin, who died December 19, 1758, aged 92.

Against the north porch of the church is a handsome altar monument of marble, defended by a neat set of iron pallisadoes: the inscription informs us that it is erected

In Memory of William Cole, late of Magdalen-Laver, Esq. who was High Sheriff of Essex in 1716, and several Years Treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital Southwark. He died Feb. 1, 1729, aged 60.

### MAGDALEN LAVER RECTORY.

INCUMBENT

PATRON.

Rev. Mr. Thomas Altham.

John Cozens, Esq.

1767.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£ 16 10 1

£ 1 13 2½

### LITTLE LAVER,

**A**S the name denotes, is the smallest of the Lavers; and, at the time of the conquest, was comprehended under one of the two others. It's distance

distance from Chelmsford is twelve miles ; from Stortford nine ; from Ongar and Epping eight miles each : it is a place of small note, in which husbandry is the chief support of it's few inhabitants. The manors which it contains are those of Little Laver-hall, and that of Enville.

LITTLE LAVER-HALL adjoins the church-yard easterly, and in the year 1200 belonged to Eustace de Lagefore, who passed it to Ralph de Roucester, whose posterity were succeeded by Robert de Scalaries or Scales, and his family had for it's successor the noble family of Bouchier. Anne, daughter and sole heir of Henry Bouchier, the last earl of Essex of this family, brought it in marriage to her husband William lord Parre, and he alienated it to Sir Richard Riche, of whom it was purchased by John Collyn, whose family enjoyed it for some time, and then sold it to Matthew Bluck, of Hunsdon in Hertfordshire, esq. It was sold by decree of chancery to the right hon the lord Masham.

The manor of ENFIELD, or *Enville* seems to have been parted from that of Laver-hall about the time of king Edward II. The mansion-house belonging to it stands at a small distance easterly from the church. This manor is named from the family of Enesfield who enjoyed it in the year 1361, and which was succeeded by that of Tyle. The family of Collins had it for a very considerable time ; of one of whom it was purchased by Mr. John Austrey, who settled it

on his grandson Mr. John Evans, of Wood-street, London, and it is now in John Jones, esq.

The church and chancel are of one pace, tiled.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The advowson of this rectory was in the crown from the year 1313 to 1540, when king Henry VIII. granted it to John Coyes and his heirs; and afterwards to Sir Richard Riche; from whom it came to the Collyn family, and then to lord Masham.

### LITTLE LAVER RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Cutts Barton, D. D.

Samuel Lord Masham.

1744-5.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 15 10 5

£. 1 11 0½

## M O R E T O N

**A**DJOINS to the south side of Little Laver, being distant from Chelmsford twelve miles; from Dunmow fourteen; from Stortford ten; from Hatfield Broad-Oak seven; and from Harlow and Epping six miles each. It is rather high in its situation, and in some parts affords agreeable prospects; the soil is very good in general, though of various kinds: this parish is parted from the Lavers by a brook,



brook, which empties itself into the Roding at Chipping Ongar: the old horse bridge over the brook which separates this parish from Bobbingworth, was taken down in the year 1762, and a new one for carriages built in its stead, by the contribution of the neighbouring gentlemen, and of the justices assembled at Chelmsford; the subscription of which latter amounted to thirty pounds. The name is taken from two Saxon words *more*, a *hill*, or *rising ground*, and *tun* a *town, village, or farm*. This parish, at the time of the survey, was holden by William Shobies; the next possessor of it, upon record, was the family D'avranches, one of whom held it in the year 1230, and dying left a son William, who dying without issue was succeeded by his sister Maud; who became a great heiress, and married to Hamo de Crevecoeur, lord of Ledes in Kent, whose four daughters and coheirs succeeded him. This manor was held of the king *in capite*, by the serjeancy of finding one man with a horse of 10s. price, and four horse shoes, a leather sack, and one iron fastening, whenever the king should happen to go into Wales, at his own expence; namely, the tenants, for forty days. From the partition of which estate arose the manors of Nether-hall, and of Over-hall.

The mansion to the first-named manor stands about fifty rods distance from the church. This moiety came by marriage to the noble family of Bouchier. Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, who died by a fall

from his horse in 1540, left an only daughter Ann, who was wife of William lord Parr, earl of Effex, and he sold it to Richard lord Riche ; in whose family it continued till it was purchased by Robert Bowne, of Blake-hall in Bobbingworth, esq. Some time ago it belonged to Mr Ambrose Page, one of the South Sea directors ; and it being sold, with Leet's farm, by the company, in February 1723-4, was purchased with the sum of 2505l. by William Cole, esq. and from his posterity hath passed to the present owner Henry Cozens, esq.

The manor of UPPER-HALL, *Over-hall*, or *Lady hall*, the mansion-house of which stands a little way in the fields south-east of the church, seems to have been named *Lady hall* from Juliana, daughter and heir of John de Sandwich, by Agnes, eldest daughter of Hamo de Crevecœur. She was married to John de Segrave, styled le Wall, because he was uncle to John lord Segrave. His son John was his successor, whom Stephen de Segrave, his cousin and next heir, succeeded. Elizabeth, sole daughter of John lord Segrave, seems to have brought it in marriage to her husband Thomas de Mowbrey, duke of Norfolk, whose son Thomas held it when he was beheaded in 1400. From the Mowbreds it came to the Howards. Next it belonged, as well as the others, to Richard lord Riche ; and of some of his posterity it was purchased by Dr. James Woodward, after whose son's death it came to Lewis Cholmondley, of Sutton in Surrey, esq. The two moieties of this

manor

manor appear to have been further parcelled out, and in different owners; however this manor now belongs to ——— Hookam, esq.

### Charitable Benefactions.

Mr. Jonathan Carver, citizen and cloth-worker of London, a native of this parish, left, by his will, dated August, 1669, a rent-charge of five pounds yearly out of an estate lying in Moreton-end; to be distributed on Christmas-day in money or clothes at the discretion of the feoffees.

Mrs. Judith Elford, in the year 1727, gave a velvet communion-cloth, pulpit-cloth, and cushion: put new rails round the communion-table, and the ten commandments over it; wainscotted the chancel, new-pewed the church, and built a neat gallery.

A benefactor, by some misfortune or neglect now unknown, gave the farm at the west end of North-lane, for the perpetual repairing of the church.

### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given by William Scabies, (before mentioned) to the monastery of St. Stephen at Caen, in Normandy, founded by William the conqueror, with the land and tythes thereto belonging. A vicarage was therefore ordained, to which the prior of Pantfield usually presented, that priory being a cell to the convent of Caen, and the prior of Pantfield procurator for them, and receiver of their rents. It was

seized by king Edward III. as a priory alien, and afterwards granted by parliament to king Henry V. [See under Pantfield: King Henry VI. endowing his college of Eaton, settled on it a pension of eighteen marks from the vicarage of Moreton; for a vicarage it continued till king Henry VIII. in 1532, presented to the living as a rectory, and it has continued such ever since. He granted the church and advowson first to Thomas archbishop of Canterbury, and afterwards to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, who had licence, in 1538, to sell it to the lord Riche, in whose family it continued till it was purchased by St. John's College in Cambridge.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is of one pace with the chancel, both very neat, and tiled. The tower of brick, plaistered over, contains five bells; on the top of the tower is a shingled spire.

### M. RETON RECTORY.

#### INCUMBENT.

William Salisbury, B. D.  
1752.\*

#### PATRON.

St. John's College,  
Cambridge.

#### VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

£. 20 0 0

#### TENTHS.

£. 2 0 0

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\* Samuel Hoard, rector of this church from 1626 to 1628, had the courage, at a time when it was accounted a greater crime than treason to boggle at the doctrine of absolute predestination, to publish 'God's love to mankind' manifested, by disproving his absolute decree for their damnation.' It was esteemed one of the best books then upon that subject, printed in 1631, in 4to. reprinted in 1673 in 8vo. but without the author's name. See Wood, Ath. Vol. II. col. 221, edit. 1721.

## S H E L L E Y

**I**S the adjoining parish to Moreton upon it's south side, being distant from Chelmsford twelve miles; from Epping eight; and from Hatfield nine. It is small and has but few houses in it, the inhabitants of which are chiefly supported by husbandry. The soil here is a white marle or clay. Here is not any curiosity natural or artificial worthy the attention of our readers, and only one good house, which stands about three quarters of a mile south from the church, it has a pleasant prospect, good gardens, &c. and is the property of Mr. Milward of Bow, and the residence of Samuel Evans, esq. we shall therefore proceed to our account of the only manor which it contains; namely,

The manor of SHELLEY-HALL, the mansion-house of which adjoins the church-yard upon it's north side. This parish, at the time of the survey, belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville; the next owner to whom, upon record, was Johanna, wife of Waleram de Munceus. We find it next in the Avelin family, which carried it into the family of Leigh. The Leighs enjoyed it for several generations, and were succeeded by Sir Richard Riche, who purchased it of Margaret and Agnes, the daughters and coheirs of Giles Leigh, esq. Robert lord Riche, grandson

to



to the above-mentioned Sir Richard Riche, sold it to John Green, and he was succeeded first by his son Robert, next by his grandson John, and then by his great grandson Robert. John Green, son of the last-named, had for his successor first his son John, and then his grandson Hadzley Green, gent. who left at the time of his decease two daughters, coheirs; namely, Sarah, married to John Baker of Blackmore, gent. by whom she had a son, father of Bernard Baker; and Mary, wife of the Rev. Andrew Trebeck, late rector of St. Georg's, Hapover square, who had by her, James, late rector of this parish, and now owner of this manor.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory formerly was appendant to the manor; but we are informed that now the bishop of London and the lord of the manor present to it alternately.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is of one pace with the chancel, and both are tiled. In a wooden belfry are two bells, and over the belfry is a spire shingled.

Within the communion rails is the following inscription, engraven on a plate of brass, in old English characters, upon the ground:

Here lyeth buried the bodye of John Greene, beinge of the age  
of 89, and had issue of his body by Katharyn his wyffe daughter of  
John Wright. Childerin xviteene, and the issue of their two  
bodyes

bodies weare one hundred and a lewen in there lyves tyme;\* which John decaesed the xviiiith of November, 1595, and the fayde Katheryn decaesed the first day of Jan. beinge of the age of 71 ycares.

A mural monument against the east wall of the chancel hath an inscription for

Mrs. Agnes Greene, wife of John Greene, gent. and had by him two sons and four daughters. She died Sept. 26, 1626.

The effigies of Mr. Greene, his wife, and children are carved in miniature, and placed above the inscription in a posture of devotion.

In the chancel is likewise an epitaph for

Fridswid Greene wife of Robert Greene, with whom she lived 52 yeaes; and by whom she had issue twelve sons. She died Aug. 15, 1624, aged 67.

### SHELLEY RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON:

Rev. Mr. Chancey.

Bishop of London, and the  
Lord of the Manor of Shelley,  
alternately.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS:

£. 9 15 0

£. 0 19 6

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\* There is a tradition, that seven of their children were sons, to each of whom he gave a manor: but it doth not appear that he had estates sufficient to answer that, at least in this county.

EOBBINGWORTH,

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## BOBBINGWORTH

**L**IES between Shelley and North-Weald; by the former of which places it is bounded on the east, by the latter on the west side; it's distance from London is twenty-two miles; from Chelmsford twelve; from Dunmow thirteen; from Ongar three, and from Epping five. This parish is but thinly inhabited, and lies out of the way of all business except that of husbandry. From some parts of the road in this parish are very luxuriant, though not extensive prospects; we find not any thing else here worthy recording, except the account of the two manors which it contains, namely, those of Bobbi gworth and Blakehall.

BOBBINGWORTH-HALL adjoins the churchyard westerly, and at the time of the conqueror's survey was held by Ralph, brother of Ilgar, the next owner to whom, upon record, is Henry Spigurnell, who died in 1328, and was succeeded by his son Thomas, (afterwards knighted) who sold it to Robert de Hakeney. In 1403 it was purchased by Sir John Asheles; and in 1423 William Asheles, of Thaxted sold it to John de Vere earl of Oxford, and others, who, in 1446, conveyed it to Sir Thomas Tyrrel, and others. In 1464 it was purchased by  
Walter

Walter Writtle, esq.\* who son Pierce succeeded him, and had for his heir a son Ralph, whose successors were a son and grandson of the same name. In 1510 there was a partition made of this estate between the two daughters of the last-mentioned Ralph Writtle, namely, Grisild, married to John Waldgrave and Eleanor, married to James Walsingham. In 1575 there was another partition of this estate, of which partition the hall was purchased by John Pool, whose descendants lived there till 1708. Afterwards the two moieties were purchased by the Houblon family, in which they continue, being now the property of Jacob Houblon, esq.

BLAKE-HALL, is a good brick building, not half a mile south-east from the church; it is approached through a handsome avenue of trees, and hath on all sides a beautiful prospect. This hall is now only a reputed manor, without court or tenants. Originally this estate was holden of the honor of Clare by half a knight's fee. In 1420 it belonged to Sir Robert Brent; afterwards to — Thompson, and in 1516 to Sir William Capell, who held it of Catharine, queen of England, as of the honor of Clare. Sir Richard Riche had it afterwards; from whom it passed to John Waylet, and he sold it to John Glasscock, of whom it was purchased by Ro-

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\* He was of a very ancient family, descended from Ralph Fitz Ralph, esq. to whom Margaret countess of Gallway gave the manor of Writtle in this county, and from whence he took the surname of Writtle. He was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1469 and 1471, and was buried in this church with his wife Catharine.

bert Brown, gent. whose posterity enjoyed it for some generations. In 1709 it was purchased of Dorothy Thompson and Anne Fowler, two coheiresses, by John Clark, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Richard Hadelock, knt. and had by her Richard Clark, esq. who had to wife Ann, sister of Thomas Ffytche of Danbury, esq. and it now belongs to their son Dennis Clark, esq.

In July 1639, Thomas Pool, Richard and John Pool, for themselves and others, paid a composition to the king's commissioners for disafforesting some lands; being the bishops of London and Winchester, and Francis Cottington, for disafforesting four hundred and eighty-one acres in this parish.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory was anciently in the families of King, and of Thorley, and other lords of Bobbingworth-hall. It belonged afterwards to Sir John Archer, knt. and to James Lordell; now to Jacob Houblon, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. German, is of one pace with the chancel, tiled. A wooden belfry contains four bells.

The chancel is now new wainscoting, and part of it new pewing; and a gallery at the west end of the church is now erecting.

Within the communion rails is the following epigraph engraved on a plate of brass:

In Hope of a joyfull resurrection lies interred the body of Robert Bown, esq. who married Katherine the daughter of Henry Medeley, esq.



Esq. by whome he had Issue five Sonnes and six daughters ; who after he had attained to the age of 78 yeares with Alacritie of Spirit surrendered his Soule into the Hands of his Redeemer May 16, 1639.

On the ground in the chancel is likewise an epitaph for

William Brown, gent. who died 18 May, 1581.

And William Chapman, who died Sept. 14, 1687.

Here are about four other tomb stones ; but their inscriptions cannot be read on account of their being either too much worn or of the pews or communion rails covering part of them.

### BOBBINGWORTH RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Jonathan Lipyeatt, M. A. Jacob Houblon, Esq.  
1751.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 13 6 8

£. 1 6 8

## NORTH WEALD

**I**S so named to distinguish it from South Weald, from which it stands northerly, and signifies North-Wood. This is an extensive parish, adjoining to the west side of Bobbingworth. and to the south

A A A 2

of

of Magdalen-Laver. We find not any thing curious here worthy the particular attention of our readers; and shall therefore only observe, that husbandry seems to be the chief support of the inhabitants of this parish; and that the soil is rich though heavy. Here is a great deal of common ground, namely, Tyler's-green, Cutler's green, Thawood-common, and Hazlewood common, which latter belongs to the manor of Cawnes and Paris. A neat school house adjoins the church-yard, the founding of which will be taken notice of in our list of charitable benefactions here. *Basset* is added to the name, because it anciently belonged to a branch of that noble family.

The manor of NORTH-WEALD in the reign king Henry II. belonged to Henry de Essex, next to his son Hugh, and then to his grandson Baldwin, who granted it to Philip Basset, whose family carried it in marriage to Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and who giving up his estate to the crown, king Edward II. granted this, among the rest, to his brother Plantagenet, earl of Kent, to hold by the yearly gift of one spar-hawk. For endeavouring to release the said king his brother from his imprisonment, he was attainted and executed in 1330; and his estate was given to Bartholomew de Berghersh; but Edmund's attainder being reversed, his son John Plantagenet, earl of Kent, enjoyed this as parcel of the earldom of Kent, and at his death, in 1352, was succeeded by his sister Joane, the fair maid of Kent, married, first to William Montacute earl of Salisbury, next to Tho-

mas Holand earl of Kent, and then to Edward the Black Prince. Upon her decease in 1385 it descended to her son Thomas Holand, earl of Kent, whose widow Alice held it at the time of her decease in 1416; as did Lucy de Visconti, widow of Edmund Holand, earl of Kent, that died in 1424. His sister Eleanor brought it in marriage to her husband Thomas Montacute, earl of Salisbury, at whose decease it came to her daughter Alice, wife of Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury, whose son Richard Neville earl of Salisbury was slain at Barnet field in 1471, and was succeeded by his eldest daughter and coheir Isabel, wife of George Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, at whose decease in 1476, Margaret Plantagenet their daughter, widow of Sir Richard Pole, obtained it in 1513. Soon after her fatal end\* in 1541, this estate came to the crown, and was granted by king Henry VIII. in 1543 to Richard Higham, who alienated it to Sir Richard Riche, from whom it passed

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\* The fate of the noble family of Pole was particularly hard and unhappy, and chiefly on account of their relation to the crown of England, through this lady Margaret Plantagenet, who was allowed by parliament in 1513, to bear the title of countess of Salisbury. By her husband, Sir Richard Pole, she had four sons, Henry, father of the lady Winifred Barrington; Geoffrey; Arthur; and Reginald. Henry was charged by his brother Geoffrey with a design to depose king Henry VIII. and advance his brother Reginald Pole, the cardinal, to the throne, for which he was beheaded. Their mother, the lady Margaret, (above-mentioned) at seventy years of age was imprisoned for two years after sentence, and then beheaded, in reality for no other crime than being of kin to her son Reginald. At the time of her execution she would not lay her head down to the block, saying 'That was for traitors; but shook about her grey hairs, and bad the executioner get her head as he could; so it was lopt off in a very unseemly manner.' Lord Herbert's life of Henry VIII.

to Sir Hugh Riche; then to Robert lord Riche, and to his son Robert earl of Warwick; from which noble family it passed into that of Cheeke, of Pirgo; that family was succeeded by Anne lady Tipping, whose youngest daughter Catharine married the present owner, the right hon. Thomas lord Archer. This manor formerly had a park, and there are some fields on the south west of the house, still called park-fields. The mansion-house is about half a mile west from the church. It likewise had anciently a free chapel, in the disposal of the lord.

From this manor have arisen two others, named Marshalls and Cawes.

The first of these manors was named MARSHALLS from Roger Bigod, earl marshal, first husband of Aliva Basset. This manor, which hath a mansion-house about two miles south-west of the church, was in the Fitz-William family in the year 1534; since then the Lardner family had it, as likewise have the Searle family; but it now belongs to John Archer, of Cooperale, esq.

The manor of CAWNES, or *Cannes*, belongs to Merton college, in Oxford; and hath been many years held by lease by the family of Binckes, in which family it still continues. The mansion-house is about a mile and a half north-west of the church.

The manor of PARIS hath a mansion about half a mile north-west from the church; but the lands to it extend into the parishes of Harlow, Latton, and Theydon-Gernon. The manor originally was held  
of

of the Writell family, and belonged to that of Shaw; by which family it was brought by marriage into that of Polley, of the latter it was purchased by Mr. Fuller of Coggeshall, clothier, from whom it hath descended to the present owner, William Fuller, esq.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Simon Thorowgood, citizen, and fishmonger of London, in 1635, gave, by will, fifty pounds towards building a grammar-school-house in this parish; and gave in trustees an annuity of ten pounds a year for a school-master, payable out of his lands called Harts-grove in Berking, for instructing the children in this and the confining towns next thereunto. Through some bad management this donation lay dormant above forty years, till 1678, when, by a commission of charitable uses it was recovered, and settled as it now stands. A school is kept here, and the endowment well paid.

Out of the rectory are distributed yearly to the poor, on Ash Wednesday, 36 bushels of grain, wheat, barley, pease, malt, or the value of the same in money. The donor was one of the Searl family.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church, by the name of Walde, was given to the priory of Clerkenwell, London, by Cecily, mother of Henry of Essex, with the patronage of the same, and all it's appertenances in lands, tithes, and obventions. The great tythes were appropriated to



to the priory, and a vicarage ordained, of which the bishop of London reserved the collation to himself and his successors in that see, and they conferred it without interruption till 1483, when the nunnery of Clerkenwell claiming a right to the patronage, the matter being referred to archbishop Warham and the lord chief justice Fireux, in 1515, they awarded, that the presentation should be alternate between the bishop of London and the owner of the impropriate tithes, and it hath continued so ever since.

The rectory, which is a manor, and reckoned to be worth about 200l. a year, was granted after the dissolution, to William Doddington. John Searle, esq. had it some time ago, and conveyed it to George Finch, gent. who had married his daughter. The latter sold it to the present owner, William Plummer, esq. knight of the shire for the county of Hertford.

The vicar, besides the small tithes, is endowed with the third part of corn and hay: but he pays to the rector four marks, yearly.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, consists of a body with a south ayfle, and a chancel of one pace, all tiled. At the upper end of the south ayfle is a small chapel, tiled. At the west end is a strong tower of brick, embattled, which contains five bells.

In the south ayfle of the church is an old tombstone, in which are inlaid several brass plates with effigies: but the plate, with the inscription is partly broke away; however, what remains of it is as follows:

Hereunder

Hereunder lieth the bodie of Walter Larder . . .  
 Marie his lovinge wife three fones viz Walter . . .  
 Samuel post mortem natus and two daughters vi . . .  
 Ann. He died the 25 Day of Aug. A. D. 16 . . .

In the body of the church is an epitaph for

Thomas Arrowsmith, B. D. who died March 6, 1705-6, aged  
 70 years, He was vicar of this parish 38 years.

And one for

Mr. Briscoe, M. A. Vicar of this Parish and Rector of St. Martin  
 Outwich, London, who died June 8, 1748, aged 60.

### NORTH WEALD VICARAGE.

INCUMBENT

PATRONS.

Francis Stanley, M. A.	Bishop of London, and the
1764.	owner of the impropriated
	tythes, alternately.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS

TENTHS.

£ 13 6 8

£ 1 6 8

## GREENSTED

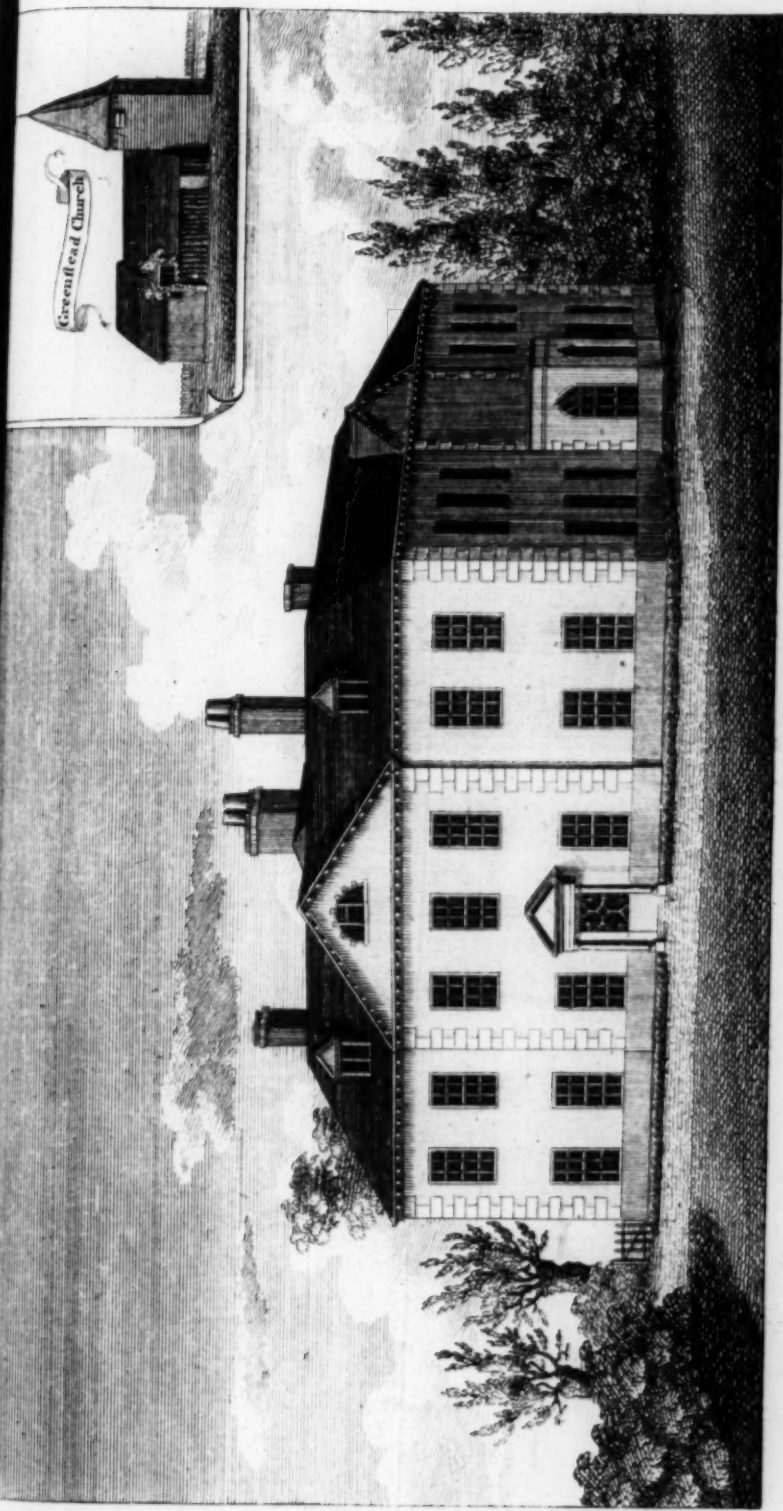
**I**S but a small parish, lying between Cheping Ongar  
 and Bobbingworth; from the town of the former  
 it is distant about a mile. The name of this village  
 signifies *green place*. It hath usually the addition of  
*Near Ongar*, to distinguish it from another Greensted  
 in this county near Colchester.

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B B B

GREENSTED.

GREENSTED-HALL is a neat building, as may be seen in the print of it, herewith prefixed, which print is the kind donation of the present worthy owner Charles Rebotier, esq. Upon the east side of the hall is a neat avenue of trees, terminated by a view of Mr. Lenham's house in Cheping Ongar; upon the same side is a small wood and a shrubbery; behind it, and partly upon it's west side, is a neat lawn, a good garden, and a serpentine canal with a neat bridge over it; and in the front stands the church. At the time of the conqueror's survey this parish belonged to Humo Dapifer, who dying without issue, was succeeded herein by his brother Robert Fitz-Humo, to whom king William II. gave the honor of Gloucester. His eldest daughter Maud was married to Robert, natural son of king Henry I. created earl of Gloucester, to whom she brought her uncle Humo's large inheritance. It is conjectured that king Stephen took this estate from him for his adherence to the empress Maud, as we find that William, son of king Stephen, gave Greensted, together with Cheping Ongar, to Richard de Lucy. From the Lucy family it came into that of Rivers; thence to William de la Hay, and from him to the noble family of Stafford, under which it was holden by the noble family of Bouchier, in which family it continued for almost two hundred years, till, by the untimely death of Henry earl of Essex, who was killed by a fall from his horse in 1540, his daughter Anne carried it in marriage to William lord Parr, created afterwards  
marquis



Greenstead Hall the Seat of Charles. Rebolter Esq.  
*W. Chapman del. et. sculp.*

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marquis of Northampton. This estate was afterwards in William Bourne, gent. of the neighbouring parish of Bobbingworth, and next in the Young family. Mr. Gulton enjoyed this estate since, and sold it to Mr. Alexander Cleeve, citizen of London. It was lately in David Rebotier, esq. and is now in his son Charles, above-mentioned.

The parsonage-house, which stands on the right hand side of the road from Cheping Ongar to Greensted church, is a very neat building, with a good prospect; and has been much improved by the present incumbent John Harris, B. LL.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church, was by act of parliament in 1548, consolidated and united to that of Cheping Ongar, and the reasons alledged in the act were, “because  
 “ the profits of the church of Cheping Ongar were  
 “ not sufficient to find a priest, being not above 6 l.  
 “ in the king’s books, and because the charges of  
 “ the repairs, ornaments, and other accustomed duties to that church and the church of Grinsted,  
 “ which was of the same value or little more, and  
 “ stood but a quarter of a mile distant from it, and  
 “ commodious for the access of the parishioners of  
 “ Ongar, were much greater than could be raised or  
 “ borne among such poor parishioners; it was therefore  
 “ enacted, that the church of Cheping Ongar should  
 “ be dissolved, and the church of Grinsted made  
 “ the parish church, as well for the parishioners of  
 “ Ongar,

“ Ongar, as those of Grinsted; and the advowson of  
 “ Ongar was thereby invested in the patron of Grin-  
 “ sted, and the said L. Rich, his heirs and assigns,  
 “ by the only name of the parsonage of Grinsted, as  
 “ appendant to the mannor of Grinsted. and the par-  
 “ son of Grinsted was for the future to be presented,  
 “ instituted and inducted by the only name of the  
 “ parson of Grinsted; and to be invested with all the  
 “ tyths, and other ecclesiastical emoluments, that  
 “ were to be paid by the inhabitants of Ongar; and  
 “ these two churches and parishes were for ever to  
 “ remain united and consolidated in one, by the name  
 “ of the parish and parish church of Grinsted; and  
 “ it was further enacted and provided. that the tenths  
 “ and first-fruits of both churches should be paid to  
 “ the king, as they then stood rated in the king’s  
 “ book; and the present patron of the church of  
 “ Ongar, was to have and enjoy the site of that  
 “ church and church-yard, with their appurtenances  
 “ to him and his heirs for ever, saving the right of  
 “ all others, except William Morrice, the then pa-  
 “ tron of Ongar, to the advowson of the said church  
 “ of Ongar.”

But this consolidation and union of these two pa-  
 rishes lasted but a short time, for it was dissolved by  
 another act made in 1554; in the preamble to which  
 it is said, that one William Morris, esq. then  
 patron of the church of Cheping Ongar, and member  
 of parliament, did by sinister labour and procure-  
 ment, get the act for the consolidation.

This

This rectory was for many years appendant to the manor. Some time ago it was purchased by Mr. Pratt, minister of St. Botolph's, Aldgate; and settled so, that upon every vacancy it is to be given to the curate of that church \*

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is small and dark: the church and chancel are of one pace; the latter is of brick; both tiled. The construction of the body of this church is so singular, that the society of antiquaries in London, some years since published a print of it, together with the following account thereof, drawn up by the late Smart Letheuillier, esq.

“The nave or body of this church, which renders it so remarkable, is entirely composed of the trunks of large oaks, split, and roughly hewed on both sides. They are set upright, and close to each

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\* This appears from the following inscription, (communicated to us by an ingenious correspondent) on a small monument in St. Botolph's church, Aldgate:

“Under this Pavement lieth interred the Body of Benjamin Pratt, A. M. for above 16 Years late Curate of this Church. He affected to end his Days in Celibacy, and departed this Life the 3d of May 1715.

Refurgam

“These few humble pious Words above were all he desired should be here inscribed, yet it ought not to be concealed, that he bequeathed to the Right Rev. Father in God the Lord Bishop of London for the time being, in Trust, the perpetual Advowson of the Rectory of the Parish and Parish Church of Greensted Juxta Chipping Ongar, in the County of Essex; the first Presentation to an intimate Friend, after him to the immediate Reader, or most superior Minister, of this his Native Parish Church for ever, and other Churches alternately which may hereafter be built in this Parish, as may be seen more at large in his Will.”

“other;

“ other ; being let into a sill at the bottom, and a  
 “ plate at the top, where they are fastened with wooden  
 “ pins. This was the whole of the original fabric, which  
 “ yet remains entire, though much corroded and worn  
 “ by length of time. It is twenty nine feet nine inches  
 “ long, fourteen feet wide, and five feet six inches high,  
 “ on the sides which support the primitive roof. The  
 “ inhabitants have a tradition, that the corpse of a dead  
 “ king once rested in this church ; which seems to  
 “ have been founded upon the accounts given us by  
 “ some of our old writers ; for in a manuscript, en-  
 “ titled *VITA ET PASSIO SANCTI EDMUNDI*, there  
 “ is this passage ; *A D. MX. et anno regis ETHELREDI*  
 “ *xxx. S. Edmundus propter infestationem Turkilli, co-*  
 “ *mitis Danorum, Londoniam est ab Ailwino translatus;*  
 “ *sed tertio anno sequente ad Bearicesworth est reversus.*”  
 And soon after it is said, *Quidam apud Stapleford*  
 “ *hospitio recepit corpus ejus in redeundo de London.\** And  
 “ in another manuscript, recited in the Monasticon,  
 “ and entitled *REGISTRUM COENOBII SANCTI ED-*  
 “ *MUNDI*, it is further added, *Idem apud Aungre hos-*  
 “ *pitabatur, ubi in ejus memoria linea capella permanet*  
 “ *usque hodie.†* Now the parish of Aungre or Ongar  
 “ adjoins to that of Greensted, where this church is  
 “ situated : and that the ancient road from London  
 “ into Suffolk lay through Oldford, Abridge, Sta-  
 “ pleford, Greensted, Dunmow and Clare, we learn  
 “ not only from tradition, but likewise from several

\* In Biblioth. Lambethana No. 362.

† Dugdale Monast. Anglic. vol. I. page 293.

“ remains

“ remains of it, which are still visible. It seems not  
“ improbable, therefore, that this rough and unpolished  
“ fabric was first erected as a sort of shrine for the  
“ reception of the corpse of St. Edmund, which in  
“ its return from London to Bedrifuorthe, or Bury,  
“ as Lydgate says, was carried in a chest.\* And, as  
“ we are told by the register above-mentioned, that  
“ it remained afterwards in memory of that transac-  
“ tion, so it might, in process of time, with proper  
“ additions made to it, be converted into a parish  
“ church; for we find by Newcourt, that Simon  
“ Feverell succeeded John Lodet as rector of Green-  
“ sted juxta Ongar in 1328. He says likewise that  
“ Richard de Lucy very probably divided the parishes  
“ of Grinsted and Aungre, and built the church at  
“ Aungre in the reign of king Henry II. and that  
“ those two churches which are distant from each  
“ other but a quarter of a mile, were united in the  
“ reign of king Edward VI. but divided again in  
“ that of queen Mary.

At the time we surveyed this church, the carpenters being at work upon it, we enquired of them what kind of wood these trunks were; and they told us they were *cheshnut*; a wood remarkable for decaying first in the inside, or at the peth.

Of these trunks of trees there are twenty-four on the north side of the church, they extending to the extremity of the wooden steeple; but on the south side twelve only, the steeple upon this side being sup-

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\* Life of king Edmund, Manuscript.



ported by common timbers. In this steeple are two small bells.

The ingenious Dr. Ducarel, in his *Anglo-Norman Antiquities Considered*, says. "The primitive churches  
 " of this island were probably very mean fabrics,  
 " built, like the houses of the Britons, with wood,  
 " and thatched on the top. Sir Henry Spelman, in  
 " his *Concilia*, vol. i. page 11. hath given us an ima-  
 " ginary icon of the chapel pretended to have been  
 " built by Joseph of Arimathea at Glastonbury, and  
 " which, upon the authority of an ancient history of  
 " that abbey, he assures us was sixty feet in length  
 " and twenty-six in breadth, and built with large  
 " wooden stakes, wattled or interwoven with rods or  
 " withs of wood, in the manner of a modern hurdle.  
 " Whether that particular chapel did or did not ever  
 " exist, I shall not determine; but it is certain that  
 " many Christian churches, built of wood, are men-  
 " tioned by the historians as existing in various parts of  
 " Britain, in the early ages of christianity. However,  
 " these were all, or at least most of them destroyed,  
 " either under the Roman persecutions, or by the  
 " outrages of the Saxons before their conversion; so  
 " that we are entirely at a loss for any further know-  
 " ledge of their structure. There is, however, one  
 " church still remaining in this kingdom, which,  
 " though erected in the Saxon times, seems to have  
 " been built upon the plan, and according to the  
 " mode of the ancient British churches. This re-  
 " markable church is at Greensted in Essex."

A mural

A mural monument on the north side of the chancel is in memory of

Jane, sister to Sir Thomas Smith, of Mont, knt. second wife of Alane Wood, of Snodland in Kent, gent. who living vertuouslie 66 yeares, died godly the xx of August, 1585.

A mural monument, affixed against the north wall, hath an inscription in memory of

Richard Hewett, sometime Rector of this parish, who died April 26, 1724.

In the church-yard is a tomb with the following inscription :

Here lieth the Body of Mary Magdalen Rebotier, wife of David Rebotier, esq. of Greensted-Hall, who departed this Life April 26, 1766, aged 70 Years. Also the Body of the said David Rebotier, who departed this Life April 12, 1769, aged 75 Years.

Here is a tomb likewise with an inscription for

Philippa, the beloved daughter of Alexander and Ann Cleeve, who died Nov. 22, 1728, aged 15.

### GREENSTED RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

John Harris, B. L. L.

PATRON.

Bishop of London.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

£. 6 13 4

TENTHS:

£. 0 13 4

☞ To gratify the curiosity of that part of our readers which do not understand the Latin tongue, we here subjoin the meaning of the Latin words in page 382. "VITA ET PASSIO SANCTI EDMUNDI"; the Life and Sufferings of St. Edmund.—"A. D. MX. et anno regis Ethelredi xxx. S. Edmundus propter infestationem Turkiilli, comitis Danorum, Londoniam est ab Ailwino translatus; sed tertio anno sequente ad Bedricefworthe est reversus." In the year  
Vol. III. No. 36. C c c of

of our Lord 1010, and in the 30th of king Etheldred, St. Edmund, by reason of the invasion of Turkil, general of the Danes, was taken from Ailwin to London; but in the third year following removed to Bedricesworth (or Bury).—"Quidem apud Stapleford hospitio recepit corpus ejus in redeundo de London". A certain person at Stapleford hospitably received his body in its return from London.—"REGISTRUM COENOBII SANCTI EDMUNDI: The Register of the abby of St. Edmund.—"Idem apud Aungre hospitabatur, ubi in ejus memoria lignea capella permanet usque hodie". His body was likewise entertained at Aungre, where a wooden chapel erected to his memory remains to the present day.

## STANFORD RIVERS

LIES on the high road from Ongar to London; from the last of which places it is distant about eighteen miles; and from the former near two; from Chelmsford fourteen; from Epping and Brentwood six miles each, and from Romford twelve. The name signifies a stone or stony-ford; and was given to this parish because a ford through the river Rodon here was naturally stony, or was paved with stone, after the manner of the Romans, who raised a pavement in many rivers in Britain to make the passage shallower, and save the expence of a bridge. The addition of Rivers is from a family de Ripariis, or Rivers, its ancient owners, distinguishing it from Stanford le Hope. This is a place of no traffic except what husbandry produces, here

here being but very few houses, which are scattered at a distance from each other.

STANFORD-HALL, which stands at a small distance from the church, at the time of the survey was held by Eustace earl of Bologne, whose granddaughter Maud brought it in marriage to her husband Stephen Blois, afterwards king of England; whose son William earl of Mortain and Surry, gave this lordship, with those of Cheping Ongar and Greensted to Richard de Lucy. In 1242 Maud de Lucy had this manor. She was given in marriage by king John to Richard Ripariis or Rivers; from whose family it came to the noble family of Stafford. Henry and Edward Stafford, both dukes of Buckingham, had this estate, which upon their several attainders and executions came to the crown. King Henry VIII. in 1524, granted this, among several other estates, to William Carey, esq. It belonged afterwards to William lord Petre, in the last century, who gave it to his second son William Petre, esq. and from him it hath passed to the present owner the right hon. lord Petre.

BELL-HOUSE, about half a mile south-west of the church, hath been chiefly the seat and residence of the Petre family in this parish. It is a good house, agreeably situated, and is now the seat of William Colgrove, esq. though the property of the right hon. lord Petre.

BERWICK, and *Caunes* or *Cadnes*, are two reputed manors, partly in this parish, and are the property of the right hon. lord Petre.

LITTLEBURY and ROCKENHOE is another manor, of which the mansion-house stands at the distance of about a mile east of the church, but most of the lands lie in High Ongar parish. This estate, last century, was in the Atwood family; since then it hath been in that of Bull, and it belongs now to Mr. Graves.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

William Green, citizen and merchant-taylor of London, gave to twelve of the poorest inhabitants of this parish, forty shillings yearly for ever, payable from certain lands and tenements in St. Botolph's, Aldgate, London. This benefaction has been discontinued for eighteen years past.

In 1600 William Petite, of Greensted, left 10s. yearly for the benefit of poor folks marriages here, and at Greensted, payable at Michaelmas. Lands called Knights, in this parish, are charged with the payment.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This valuable rectory was from the first in the gift of the crown. Queen Mary I. annexed to the duchy of Lancaster, 15 April, 1558, the lordships and manors of Stanford Rivers, Stanford-hall, Tracys, Bridges, and Piggesland: from that time the advowson of this rectory hath been in the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The



The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is of one pace with the chancel, and both are almost of equal breadth, and tiled. The belfrey is of wood, containing three bells; and hath on the top a large wooden spire shingled.

Against the east wall of the chancel is a marble monument, with an epitaph for

Dr. Gibbs, formerly rector of this parish, who died September 16, 1681, aged 77 years.

A brass plate, against the north wall, hath this inscription in Old English characters :

Before this Tabernaculle lyeth buried Thomas Grene, some time bayle of this towne. Mgaret and Mgaret hys Wyves, which Thomas dyed the 8th day of July, M D xxxv. The which Thomas hath wylled a Prest to syng in this church for the space of xx yeares, for hym, his wyves, his children, and all mens soules. And more over he hath wylled an obyte to be kept the 8th day of July, for the terme of xx yeares, for the soules afore said, and at every tyme of the said obyte bestowed xxs. of good lawful money of England, &c.

In the south window of the chancel is a loose plate of brass, with an epitaph for

Katherine Mulcaster, wife to Richard Mulcaster, by ancient parentage and linniall discent ann Esquier borne; who by the famous queen Elizabeth's prerogative gift, parson of this churche, with whom she lived in marriage 50 yeares, and died the 6th day of August, 1609. A grave woman; a loving wife, a careful nurse, a godlie creature, a saint in heaven in the presence of her God and Saviour, whom she ever dailie and dearelie served.

Under the communion table is a plate of brass, with an epitaph for

Lucy

Lucy Petre, daughter of William Petre, Esq. She died Oct 9, 1637.

In the chancel upon the ground, is an epitaph for each of the following :

William Petre, esq. son of William lord Petre, who died Jan. 15, 1677, aged 75. His wife Lucy, daughter of Sir Richard Termer, in Somerton in Oxfordshire, knt.

William Petre of this parish, esq. who died in 1686; and for his wife who died in 1688.

William Beckworth, and Major John Beckworth.

On the south side the chancel is the following upon a plate of brass :

Pray for the soules of Robert Karrow and Alys his wyf which Robert decessed the xvi day of August, 1506. On whose soulyes Jesu have mercy. Amen.

Against the south wall of the church is this epitaph, in a plate of brass :

Here before lieth Anne Napper, late the wyfe of William Napper, gent. and daughter to William Shelton, esq. who died the 8th day of April, 1584.

In token of whose verteous lyfe,

And constant sacred love,

And that her memory shoulde remayne

And never hence remove,

Her husband in his tyme of lyffe,

This monument did leave his wyffe.

### STANFORD RIVERS RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

Nathaniel Lancaster, D. D.

1737.

PATRON.

Chancellor of the  
duchy of Lancaster.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

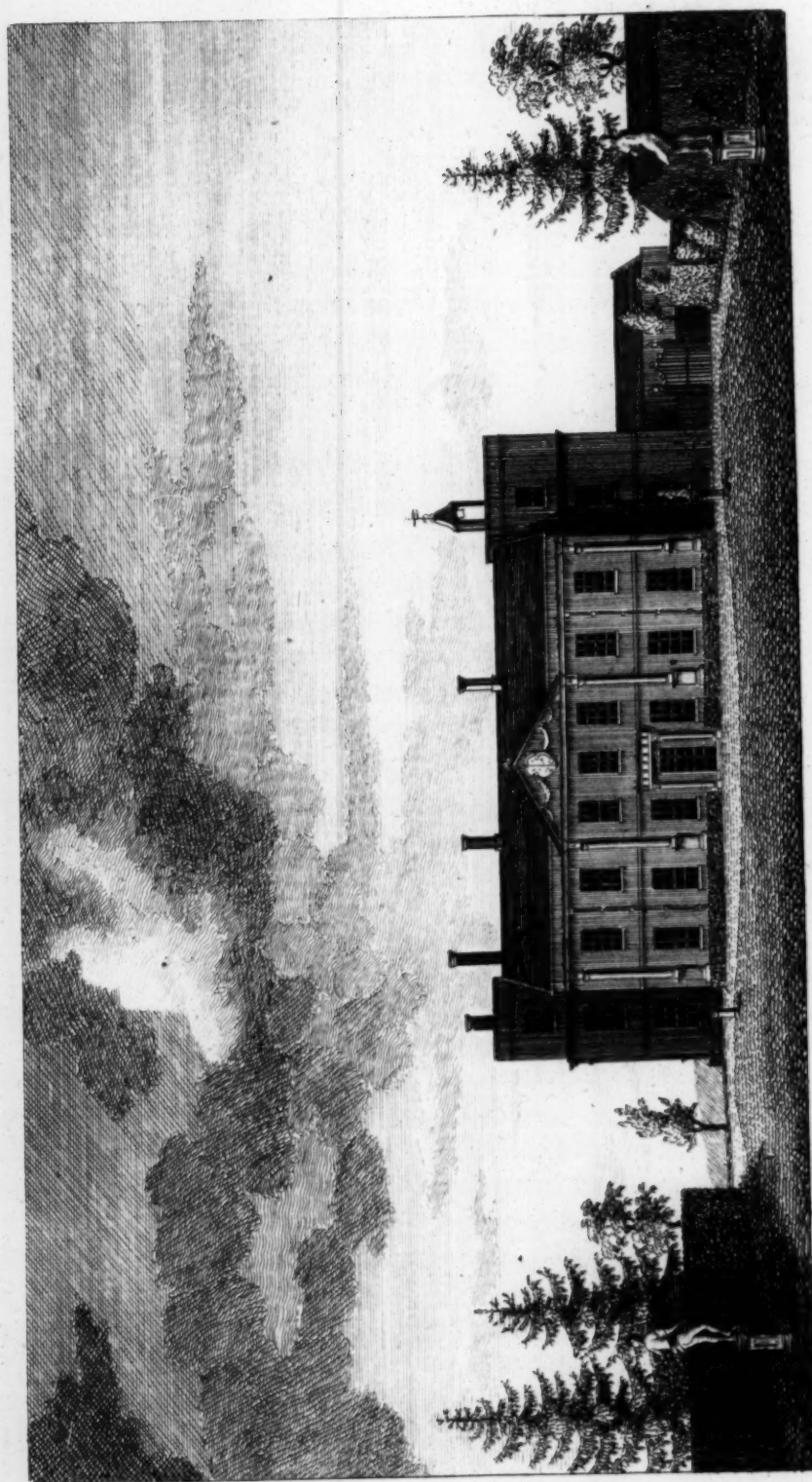
£. 26 13 4

TENTHS.

£. 2 13 4

THEYDON





*J. Chapman del et sculp*

*Hill Hall the Seat of S<sup>r</sup> Charles Smyth Barr<sup>t</sup>*

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## T H E Y D O N.

**T**HERE are three contiguous parishes of this name distinguished from each other by the appellations of *Theydon-Mount*, *Theydon-Gernon*, and *Theydon-Bois*, which distinctions were not known at the time of the conqueror's survey, the three parishes being there entered as one only, under the name of Taindena, and Teindana. They are bounded on the east by the parish of Kelvedon; on the north by Stanford Rivers and Epping; on the west by Waltham Cross; and on the south by Loughton, Abridge, Lambourn, Stapleford-Abbots, and Navestock.

### T H E Y D O N M O U N T,

OR *Admontem*, received that name as standing upon the highest ground. It adjoins to the south side of Stanford-Rivers; is distant from Epping about three miles; from Ongar six; from Chelmsford seventeen; and from Romford and Brentwood eight miles each. The parish is small, and hath but few houses in it, which are mostly in a delightful situation, particularly that noble structure called **HILL-HALL**, which in point of elegance and prospect may be reckoned



reckoned inferior to very few houses in this county. This edifice was built by Sir Thomas Smith, secretary of state in 1548. It is quadrangular, with very thick and lofty walls, adorned with columns in imitation of stone. The entrance to it is northward, along a pleasant avenue of great length and suitable breadth, on each side of which are rows of stately elms and other plantations. Great alterations were made in it by Sir Edward Smith in the last century, and more have been made by its present owner Sir Charles Smith, to whose munificence we are indebted for the copper-plate of it.

This lordship was one of the fifty-five bestowed by William the conqueror upon Suene of Essex, who was possessed of the honor of Raleigh, where his castle and chief residence was; whence this manor came to be held of the honor of Raleigh. To Suene succeeded Henry de Essex, constable to king Henry II. and hereditary standard-bearer; who for throwing down the standard in a battle with the Welsh in 1163, which occasioned the defeat of the English, was deprived of all his estates. Soon after this estate was in the lord Robert de Brus, under whom John de Laxendon\* held this manor, and in 1250 had licence to make a park here. At his death, in 1257 his brother Henry, bishop of Lincoln, was his heir; and he in 1258 was succeeded by his nephews William de

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\* In 1253 he had licence to hunt in the forest of Essex. He was chief justice of all the forests north of Trent, governor of several castles in the north, and commissioner of the great seal in 1253.

Sutton, and Richard de Tany. This manor being a very fine one, and contiguous to Stapleford Tany, induced Richard de Tany, junior, to obtain it by a pretended fraudulent grant, and under colour of which grant he seized some tenements in this parish belonging to Robert de Sutton, the king's enemy during the wars between him and his barons. But, upon a trial in 1266, the fraud was discovered, and Robert de Brywes, the appellant, remained in quiet possession. The Sutton family appears to have been very soon after restored to their estate here; and even to have held the manor, and advowson of the livings of Brywes. John de Sutton, lord of Dudley, granted this manor and advowson for twelve years, to Henry de Malyns, but his posterity enjoyed them for a much longer space of time. This estate is next seen in the family of Hampden, in an age when there were so many changes by confiscation and forfeiture during the wars between the houses of York and Lancaster, that frequently bare possession is to be known. Sir John Hampden married Philippa, daughter of John Wilford, of London, gent. by whom he left no issue: after his decease, she was remarried and second wife to Sir Thomas Smith, son of John Smith, of Saffron Walden in this county.\* He had two brothers John and George. John was

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\* This Sir Thomas built Hill-hall. Some part of his great character may be seen in his epitaph among the inscriptions in this parish church; but more of it in the account of him published by the industrious John Strype, in 1698; and in *Biographia Britannica*.

of Walden and had a son William who died in 1576. George was a merchant of London. His son Sir William was a brave foldier;\* he had two wives; by the first of which he had three sons and four daughters: Sir William,† his eldest son, succeeded him; and Edward, his son, at the age of fifteen, served volunteer under prince Rupert in the civil wars, where he gained great reputation, but died at the age of twenty-two; whereupon his uncle Thomas Smith, esq. came into the estates, and was created a baronet in November, 1661.‡ Sir Edward Smith, bart. his eldest surviving son and successor, married Jane, daughter of Peter Vandeput, of London, esq. by whom he had four sons and two daughters; of which children five died in their infancy. At his death in June 1713, he was succeeded by his only son Sir Edward Smith, bart. He married first, Anne, daughter of Sir Charles Hedges, knt. by whom he had Edward, Charles, Thomas, William, and Peter; and a daughter dead. After her decease, which happened in October 1719, he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Wood, of London, esq. At his death, in August 1744, he was succeeded by his eldest son Sir Thomas Smith, bart. who dying without issue, the title and estate came to his next brother Sir Charles Smith, bart. the present possessor. See page 195.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

The rectory hath been all along appendant to the manor.

\* See his epitaph, page 397.

† † See his epitaph, page 398.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, stands pleasantly. It was burnt by lightening, and was rebuilt by the first Sir William Smith, of brick, tiled. It is only of one pace with the chancel. The tower is embattled, and contains one bell.

In the chancel of this church are several costly monuments: the most ancient of which is that against the north wall of the chancel and within the communion rails.

The effigy of Sir Thomas Smith is placed under an arched canopy; within which are various emblematical devices, and the following inscription:

Thomas Smithus Eques auratus hujus Manerii Dns. cum Regis Edvardi sexti; tum Elizabethæ Reginae Consiliarius; ac primi nominis Secretarius, eorundemque, Principum ad Maximos Reges legatus, Nobilis ordinis Garterii Concellarius, Ardæ Australisque Claneboy in Hibernia Colonellus, Juris civilis supremo titulo etiam cum Adolefcens insignitus, Orator, Mathematicus, Philosophus excellentissimus, Linguarum Latinæ, Græcæ, Hebraicæ, Gallicæ etiam et Italicæ callentissimus. Proborum et ingeniosorum hominum fautor eximius plurimius commodans, nemini nocens, ab injuriis ulciscendis alienissimus. Deniq; sapientia, pietate, integritate insignis, et in omni vita seu æger seu valens intrepidus mori, cum ætatis suæ 65 annum complevisset in ædibus suis Montauleasibus 12<sup>o</sup> Die Augusti, Anno Salutis 1577, pie et suaviter  
in Domino obdormivit.

Beneath the effigy, by which he is represented in a cumbent posture, is the following;

Gloria vitæ contractæ celebrem facit in terræ  
visceribus sepultum.

Innocuus vixi; si me post funera lædas  
Glosteri Domino facta (scelesse) lues.

D D D 2

## In English :

Sir Thomas Smith, knight, lord of this manor, privy counsellor and principal secretary of state both to king Edward the sixth and to queen Elizabeth, and their ambassador to the greatest kings, chancellor of the noble order of the garter, colonel of Arda and Southern Claneboy in Ireland, honoured, even when a youth, with the highest title of the civil law, a most excellent orator, mathematician and philosopher, very skilful in the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, French and Italian languages, a friend of the honest and ingenious man, singularly good, serviceable to many, hurtful to none, averse to revenge. In short, remarkable for his wisdom, piety and integrity, and in every part of life, whether sick or well, prepared for death. When he had completed the 65th year of his age, piously and sweetly slept in the Lord, at his seat of Mont-hall on the 12th day of August in the year of his salvation 1577.

The glory of a short life makes a man famous when buried in the bowels of the earth.

My life was blameless ; if, after my death, you hurt my fame, (wretch) the Almighty will punish thee for so doing.

Dame Philip his Wife died the 20th Day of June, 1578, and lieth with him here buried.

Around the arch of the canopy are these words :

What Earth, or Sea, or Skies containe, what Creatures in them be, my Minde did seeke to know, the Heavens continually.

Over the monument is the arms finely done in marble ; around which is this motto :

*Tabificus quam vis serpens oppressarit ignem :  
Qua tamen erumpendi sit data copia lucet.*

## In English

Though the poisonous serpent stifles the fire, it will yet shine where it has power to burst forth.

Opposite



Opposite the last described monument is a superb one of marble, gilt : under a spacious arched canopy lie the effigies of the two persons to whose memory it is erected, both in cumbent posture, and at full length : Sir William Smith is represented in his armour, and his lady with a book in her hand. Against the back of the canopy is a table with this inscription :

To the pious memory of her loved and loving husband, Sir William Smith of Hill-hall in the county of Essex, knt. who till he was thirty years old followed the wars in Ireland with such approbation that he was chosen one of the colonels of the army. But his uncle, Sir Thomas Smith, chancellor of Great Britain, and principal Secretary of State to two princes, King Edward the Sixth and the late Queene Elizabeth, of famous memorie, dying, he returned to a fair and full inheritance, and so bent himself to the affairs of the country, that he grew alike famous in the arts of peace as of warre. All offices, that sortd with a man of his quality, he right worshipfully performed, and died one of the Deputy Lieutenants of the Shire, a place of no small trust and credit.

Bridget, his unfortunate widow, (who during the space of thirty-seven years bore him three sonnes and four daughters) daughter of Thomas Fleetwood of the Vache in the county of Buckingham, esq. and some time master of the mint, to allay her languor and longing after so dear a companion of her life, rather to express her affection than his merit, this monument erected, destinating the same to herself their children, and posterity. He lived years 76, and died Dec. 12, 1626.

The effigies in miniature of their three sons and four daughters, are placed beneath in posture of devotion.

An altar monument against the south side of the chancel hath this inscription ;

Here

Here lieth the body of Sir William Smith, knt. sonne of Sir William Smith, of Theydon Mount in the county of Essex. Where after many sweet expressions of his confidence in the mercies of his Saviour, in the two and thirtieth year of his age he peaceably slept in our lord Jesus.

He had two wives, the first Helegenwagh, the daughter of the right hon. Edward Viscount Conway; by her he had one only sonne and heir Edward, and two daughters. The second, Anne, descended of the ancient family of Crofts, in Hertfordshire, as yet living, who (as a testimony of her loyall affection) erected this to the memory of her dear consort, deceased, on the 5th of March, 1631.

His effigy, with those of his two wives, are placed upon the tomb, and represented in posture of devotion.

Over against the last described one, is another altar monument of marble, with this inscription:

Here lieth the body of Sir Thomas Smith of Hill-hall in the county of Essex, Bart. (Son of Sir William Smith of the same place, knt.) He had two wives; the first Joannes (the daughter of Sir Edward Altham in this County) by her he had eleven sons and two daughters, whereof nine sons are yet living. She died July 14, 1658. The second, Beatrice, daughter of the right hon. Francis Viscount of Valentia, who died March 26, 1668. After he had lived 66 years with great reputation for loyalty to his prince, and conformity to the church of England in apostate times, and served his king and country, in chiefest places of trust and credit in the county, peaceably departed this life in our Lord Jesus.

His effigy, finely executed, lies upon the tomb.

Against the north wall is a mural monument with an epitaph for

Sir Edward Smith, of Hill-hall,  
in the County of Essex, Bart.

(Son

(Son of Sir Thomas Smith, of the same Place, Bart.)  
who married Jane,

The only Daughter of Peter Vandeput, Esq.  
Late of the City of London, Merchant.

He had by her several Children, who all died young  
except his Son Sir Edward Smith, who erected  
this Monument to the pious Memory of his most  
dear Father, who departed this Life the 24th Day  
of June, 1713, aged 76.

Dame Jane departed this Life Jan. 28, 1720, aged 67.

A neat mural monument faces the last described  
one, and hath this inscription:

Here lies the Body of  
Sir Edward Smith, Bart. (of Hill-hall, in this  
parish,) son of Sir Edward Smith, and Jane,  
Daughter of Sir Peter Vandeput, Esq.

Whom his Companions well knew

To be a Man of Integrity,

Strict Justice, and good Morals.

He had two wives,

The first, Anne,

Daughter of the right hon. Sir Charles Hedges,

Secretary of State

By whom he had five sons, and one daughter.

And Elizabeth daughter of John Wood, of London, Esq.

### THEYDON MOUNT RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

William Smith, B. LL.

Sir Charles Smith, Bart

1755.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS

TENTHS.

£ 13 6 8

£ 1 6 8

THEYDON

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## THEYDON GERNON

**L**IES upon the west side of Theydon-Mount, and adjoins to the south side of Epping. The denomination of *Gernon* is added to it from a family so named, who were it's ancient owners. It is frequently called *Coopersale*, from a capital messuage here so named. This, with some of the neighbouring parishes, may with propriety be called the *garden of Essex*, from the pleasing variety of the hills and vales; the fertility of the soil, the goodness of the roads, the neatness of the buildings, and the many additional ornaments they receive from the number of noblemen and gentlemens seats with which they abound, in so much that a traveller cannot pass through this part of the county without being struck with the peculiarity of it's beauty, and the variety of noble and pleasing prospects which in different places present themselves to his view. The vill is but small, and consists in general of a few shops, and artificers, requisite to the situation. The Gernon family, (which is frequently mentioned in the course of this history) accompanied William the conqueror in his expedition to England. Robert Gernon had two sons, William and Robert; the former of which was of Stansted, and dropping the surname of Gernon, took that of Montfitchet, from the raised mount on which his castle there was built.

built. Robert, the second son, retained the name of Gernon, and had for his successors, Matthew, living in king Stephen's reign; Ralph, son to the latter, and Ralph, son of the last-named, a judge itinerant; his son Sir William Gernon, of the council of king Henry III. and marshal of his house, who married Beatrix, daughter and heir of Henry de Theydon. His father Ralph gave him this lordship, which from him took it's distinguishing appellation. In 1345 we find the manor of Theydon Gernon in the family of Wells, in which it continued till 1461, when Leo de Wells was killed at Towton field, fighting for king Henry VI. whereupon his estates were confiscated by king Edward IV. This estate thus escheating to the crown, appears to have been parcelled out; we shall therefore trace down to this time

The manor of THEYDON-GERNON, the mansion-house of which, called Garnish-hall, stands about half a mile north-west of the church. The next possessors of this estate, after the attainder of Leo de Wells, was Francis Hampden, esq. in right of his wife Elizabeth, in the year 1507, one of whose daughters, it is conjectured, was Margery, wife of Edward Bushopp, gent. Ellen, wife of John Branch, citizen of London, was another daughter and coheir of Francis Hampden, esq. Her son John succeeded her, and had for his successor a sister and several nephews and neices, one of whom was married to Robert Dun, and his son Sir Samuel Dun, knt. succeeded to this estate, and had for his successor Cæsar Dun, esq. who



was succeeded by his son Daniel, whose only daughter Elizabeth, became the wife of Richard Sheldon, of Dichford in Warwickshire, esq. About the year 1660 it was purchased by Sir Robert Abdy, of Albins, in Stapleford-Abbots, knt. and bart. and is now in his successor Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, of the same place, bart.

The manor of PARK-HALL or *Gains-hall*, the mansion of which stood about two miles north-east of the church, but is now down, upon Leo's forfeiture, king Edward IV. seems to have given to his second daughter Cecily, wife of John lord Wells, son of the said Leo de Wells, by Margery duchess of Somerset, his second lady. This estate was next in Sir William Fitz-Williams, citizen of London, and alderman in 1506.\* He was much employed in the wars in Ireland, and was twice lord deputy lieutenant, and five times one of the lord justices in

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\* Sir Richard at first was a merchant-taylor, and sometime servant to Cardinal Wolsey; and after the cardinal's disgrace and fall, happening to give him kind entertainment at his seat at Milton in Northamptonshire, he was sent for by king Henry VIII. and asked, 'how he durst entertain so great an enemy to the state.' His answer was, 'that he had not contemptuously or wilfully done it, but only because he had been his master, and partly the means of his great fortunes.' The king was so pleased with this answer, that, saying, himself had too few such servants, he immediately knighted him.

He gave fifty pounds to mend the highways between Cooperale and Chigwell; also one hundred pounds for poor maids marriages; forgave all his debtors; and did several other handsome and charitable actions. Stow's Survey of London, edit. 1720, book I. page 262. But all that is related further concerning him, in page 263, col. i. is a bundle of mistakes, it belonging to William Fitz-Williams, earl of Southampton. See Dugdale's Baronetage, vol. ii. page 105.

that kingdom. His son John succeeded him, and afterwards his grandson Sir William Fitz-William. In 1617 Sir Richard Wingfield, knt. held this manor. It hath then been in the earls of Anglesea, in whom it still continues.

COOPERSALE is a capital seat about two miles north of the church. The house stands upon the declivity of a hill, on the right hand side of the road to Epping. The rooms in general are small but lofty; and the two best parlours are remarkable for the excellency of their painted ceilings. Around the house are a variety of beautiful lawns, vistas, and other agreeable objects; but the prospect is very much confined. The name of Coopersale does not occur in record before the time of king James I. and most probably was Coopers-hall. This seat hath been a considerable time the residence of the family of Archer: which family derive themselves from Simon de Bois, who attended king Henry V. at the battle of Agincourt, and had a patent then for a pension of five marks yearly during his life. The occasion of altering his name is thus related. This Simon, at a shooting match with the said king Henry at Havering Bower, performed so well, that the king ordered his name should be changed to Archer. The successors of Simon were, John, father of another John, and Richard; which latter had two sons, of whom William the younger son had issue Henry Archer, of this place, esq. whose son John, born in the year

1598, succeeded him.\* His daughter Eleanor came next in possession. She was the first wife of Sir Walter Wrottesley, of Wrottesley in Shropshire, bart. and left an only daughter named Eleanor, who succeeded to this estate. She became the wife of William Eyres, esq. John Archer, esq. is the present worthy possessor.

In this parish is a handsome modern-built house, situated on an eminence. This building is very elegantly decorated, and has every conveniency necessary to render it a commodious as well as a delightful residence. It belonged to the late Jerningham Cheveley, esq. of the Six Clerks Office, and is now the property of his widow, the kind donor of the elegant plate of it hereunto prefixed.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

Ann lady Fitz-Williams appointed by her will an hospital to be erected in this parish for the perpetual maintenance of four widows, and their successors; and has left for each of them twelve pence weekly.

Henry Archer, esq. of this parish, gave to the poor here two pounds, and to the poor of Lowlayton one pound yearly, to be distributed every Whitsunday.

John Baker, of Epping, about the twentieth of Henry VIII. left Stonehurst's farm in Theydon-Germon, to repair the highways from Harlow to London, and for other acts of piety and charity; and a wood

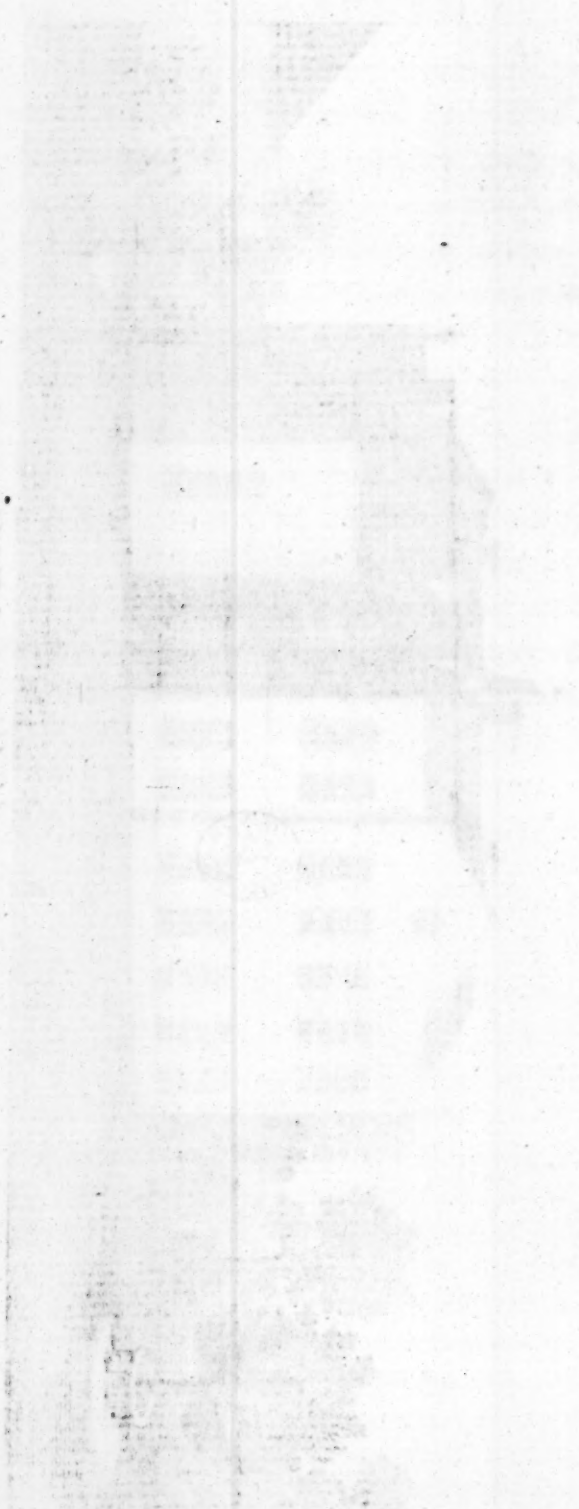
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\* See his epitaph, page 408.



J. Hume, Sc.

*Cooper's Hall, the Seat of M<sup>rs</sup> Cherrey*



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called Redyns, also in this parish, to the churches of Epping and Theydon-Gernon. The will has been equitably construed, and the donation applied to the uses of the poor and the churches in such things as the parish rates could not extend to ; and not to the lessening of those rates.

John Reynolds of Ipswich, gent. left to the poor of this parish and of Epping, for ever, the rents of lands called Throps in Theydon Mount.

Thurstan Willstanley of this parish, left to the poor here, for ever, the rent of a tenement called Bulls, in Duck Lane, in the parish of North Weald.

John Hylard, alderman of London, gave to the poor here fifty pounds, with which was purchased a house in the street, and one on the common, for the use of the said poor.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory originally was in the gift of the Gernon family ; since then it hath been in other owners, and ever since the year 1660 in the heirs of the late Sir Robert Abdy, bart. of Albins. It is now in Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, bart.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, consists of a body and a north ayfle, over which last is a gallery. The church is neatly painted. The chancel is of one pace only ; the whole tiled. A strong square tower of brick at the west end, with a weathercock over it, contains five bells. Upon the north side of the church is a good prospect.

It

It appears by a free-stone, inlaid in brick on the south side of the steeple, that Sir John Crosbie was a considerable contributor to the building of this steeple. He was knighted in the field by king Edward IV. in 1471, was alderman of London, sheriff in 1470, and built Crosbie-Place in Bishop's gate street, London. The time of his death was in 1475, but the date on the stone is 1520. From which it is concluded, that the building was then finished, and the money having been collecting for it several years, a good sum was "gevyn out of his godys toward the makynge of this stepyl," as the words of the inscription were.

In the chancel are several monuments, the most ancient of which are two, one upon it's south side and the other upon it's north side; and seem both to have been erected about the same time; they are each of them built within the wall, are small, and have a canopy over them. The brass plates, which contained the inscriptions, being taken away, we are at a loss to inform our readers whose memory they were intended to perpetuate; but the circumstance of their being within the walls of the chancel leads us to imagine that they are for some family who were great contributors towards the building of the church or chancel, as that distinction was seldom shewn to any families but those who had paid extremely well for it.

Over the monument upon the north side of the chancel, is a brass plate, inlaid in marble, and the whole let into the wall of the chancel: the portraiture of a woman in a posture of devotion, has these words

words proceeding from her mouth. *In God is my trust*: and below the portraiture is the following inscription;

Here under lyeth buried the body of Ellyng Branche, late wyffe of John Branche, cityzen & merchant of London, and one of the dawghterrers and heyres of Franncis Haden Esqwyre, who departed this Pſent life with a wyllinge myned, commytyng her bodye and ſoule to the eternall Gode through Jeſus Chriſt, April 14, 1567.

A ſmall mural monūment on the ſouth ſide of the chancel is in memory of

Sir Daniel Dun, knt. and of Dame Joane his wife, who their lives honourably led in their ſeveral ſeaſons, He was honoured by queen Elizabeth with the State of Ambaſſador, and Office of Maſter of Requeſt; which Honour was increaſed by king James with the Order of Knighthood, and Increaſe of honourable Employment; ſo that being Maſter of the Requeſts, Dean of the Arches, and Judge of the Admiralty, long living in great Honor in Court and Country, he ſo died the 26th of September 1617.

Againſt the eaſt wall of the chancel is a monūment in memory of

That worthy and truly religious Lady Dame Fitz William, widow. She was married to Sir William Fitz William, of Milton in the county of Northampton, knt. who was twice Lord Deputy and five times Lord Juſtice of the realm of Ireland. She died June 11, 1602, and hath appointed by her will an hoſpital to be erected in this pariſh for the perpetuall mayntenance of four poore widowes and their ſucceſſors, and hath given to every of them x11d. a week

Give Glory to God, and let others by her religious example be ſtirred up with the like Care and Proviſion for the Poore.

Againſt the ſame wall is a neat mural monūment, with a Latin inſcription to the memory of

Sir

Sir John Archer knt, one of his Majesty's Justices of the Court of Common Pleas, who departed this Life on the 8th Day of February, in the year of our Lord 1681, and in the 84th year of his age.

In the chancel, on the outside of the communion rails, is a grand modern marble monument, with a Tomb of Ægyptian marble standing upon a noble base: at one end of the tomb sits a cupid with his torch reversed: at the other end a cupid with an hour-glass: over the tomb is an angel unveiling a medallion on which is the profile of William Eyre Archer, esq. and his wife Susannah: behind the medallion is a fine pyramid of veined marble, with their arms affixed to it's upper point: against the pedestal on a table of white marble, is this inscription:

Near this place are deposited the remains of WILLIAM EYRE ARCHER, Esq. a Man of strict Honor and Integrity, descended, originally, from a very ancient Family of Highlow, in the County of Derby, late of Welford, Berks, (of which County he was sometime one of the Representatives in Parliament) and also of Cooperale, Essex, at which Place he departed this Life June 30, 1739, aged 59 years.

Near, likewise, lies interred the Body of SUSANNAH ARCHER, his Wife, only Daughter of Sir John Newton, Bart. of Barrs Court, in the County of Gloucester. A Woman of exemplary Piety and diffusive Charity; instructive and amiable in her Deportment through all the Paths of a religious or social Tendency. She died Jan. 28, 1761, aged 68. The said William and Susannah Archer left four surviving Children; viz John (married March 21, 1752, to the Lady Mary, third Daughter of the Right Hon. John Earl Fitz-William of Milton in the County of Northampton) Michael (who took upon him by Act of Parliament, the Surname of Newton) Susannah, (married July 12, 1751, to the Right Hon. Edward Earl of Oxford and Mortimer) and Katherine.

In

In this church is likewise an epitaph for each of the following; viz.

James Maggs, rector of this parish, who died Jan. 22, 1672, aged 64.

Margaret, his Wife, who died Sept. 23, 1665, aged 56; and for Henry and Thomas, two of their Children.

John Nicholas, late rector of this parish, who died Jan. 31, 1721, aged 48. He was grandson of Sir Edward Nicholas, Secretary of State to king Charles I.

## THEYDON GERNON RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRON.

Stotherd Abdy, M. A.  
1752.

Sir Anthony Thomas  
Abdy, Bart.

VALUE IN THE KING'S BOOKS.

TENTHS.

£. 17 0 0

£. 1 14 0

## THEYDON BOIS

**I**S the most southern, and the least, of these three parishes: it is distant from London fourteen, and from Epping three miles. The addition of *Bois* shews it was more woody than the rest, it being a Norman word signifying wood. This parish, at the time of the conqueror's survey, was held by Peter de Valloines. The manor was in the reign of king Henry III. in Peter de Tany, who gave it to Waltham-abbey; and it continued with the abbey till it's suppression;



preffion ; when it was valued at eight pounds a year clear. It continued in the crown till the year 1551, when king Edward VI. granted it to Sir Thomas Wrothe, whose posterity enjoyed it for a considerable time, and were succeeded by Edward Elrington ; it now belongs to John Hopkins, of Hornchurch, esq.

THEYDON-HALL, which adjoins to the church-yard, and the estate thereunto belonging, is the property of John Elwes, esq. of Berkshire.

BIRCH-HALL, a manor in this parish, standing on a hill, in the road from Waltham-Abbey to Affe-bridge, was once the residence of the Elrington family ; which family was succeeded herein by that of Smart ; the family of Meggot was the next possessor ; of some of whom it was bought by Smart Letheuillier, esq. and since his decease his heirs have sold it to John Hopkins, of Hornchurch, esq. who is also the owner of Theydon-Green.

There is not any court kept at Theydon-hall, but at Birch-hall, and sometimes on Theydon-green.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This church was given by William de Boico to the priory of St. Bartholemew, in West Smithfield. They presented twice to it as a rectory, and then the whole tythes being appropriated to them, it became a curacy, and so continues ; supplied now by such clergymen as the impropriator nominates, and the bishops licences. It is augmented by queen Anne's bounty.

The

The tythes, after the dissolution, were granted in 1543, to Edward Elrington, esq. above-mentioned.\* It continued in his posterity, with the rest of the parish, till 1656, when it was sold to John Smart, esq. and hath passed to John Hopkins, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of one pace with the chancel, and tiled. A little wooden turret, with a spire shingled, contains three bells.

Here is neither monument or inscription.

## LOUGHTON

**I**S a delightful parish of large extent, adjoining to the last described one: it's situation is both healthy and convenient; distant from London thirteen miles; from Epping four; from Ongar ten; from Romford eight; from Brentwood ten, and from Chelmsford twenty. The vill, which is at a distance from the church, is small and neat, but carries on little or no traffic. In this parish are several very good houses, particularly that in which Captain Williams resides, on the left hand side of the road leading to London: one belonging to Sackville Boyle, esq. at the bottom of Bucket-green: Alexander Hamilton, esq's. upon Debden-green. Richard

\* He was chief butler to king Edward VI. queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth.

Lomax Clay, esq. late high sheriff of this county, has an excellent house upon the summit of Golden-hill, which commands an exceeding rich and extensive prospect, in which the greatest part of the city of London is included : and Loughton-hall, though it is not a regular, is a large handsome building, surrounded by a variety of beautiful prospects, in which are comprehended part of the forest, Woodford, Woodford-bridge, Chigwell and it's church, Chigwell-row, Lamborn, Abridge, the Theydons, Stapleford Abbot, part of Epping : the many gentlemen's seats in this extensive view, greatly contribute to render it one of the richest in the county. The parish of Loughton was one of the seventeen lordships wherewith earl Harold endowed his monastery of Waltham, and in that monastery it continued till it's suppression, when it came to the crown. In 1558 queen Mary annexed this lordship and manor to the duchy of Lancaster.

The manor of LOUGHTON was in the Wroth family for many generations. John Wroth, esq. one of the verdurers of Waltham-forest, dying without issue in 1718, left this estate, after his wife's decease, to the right hon William-Henry, earl of Rochford. In 1745 his lordship sold it for the sum of 24,500l. to William Whitaker, esq. of Lime-street, London : his widow enjoyed it after his death, and it is now in his daughter Miss Anne Whitaker.

It is said that in 1688, the princess of Denmark, afterwards queen Anne, retired to Loughton-hall, when

when she saw how things were going on with her ill-advised father.

#### Charitable Benefactions.

This parish receives twenty shillings, part of Mr. Robert Rampston's benefactions, as may be seen by the following inscription on a plate of brass, affixed against the south wall of the chancel :

Robert Rampston, of Chynford in the county of Essex, gent. deceased, as he was careful in his lyfe tyme to releave the poore, soe att his ende by his testament he gave 22l. yerely ; whereof to the poor of this parish of Loughton he hath given yerely for ever 20s. to be paid in the month of Dec. He decesed Aug. 3, 1585.

#### CHURCH, MONUMENTS, & INSCRIPTIONS.

This rectory belonged to Waltham abbey till it's dissolution. After that, in 1544, George Stonard and Edward Stacey presented once, by virtue of a turn granted them by the abbey. The crown presented in 1555 to 1609 ; next it came into the Wroth family, and is now in Miss Anne Whitaker, owner of the manor.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, consists of a body, and a north ayfle which extends to the chancel; all tiled. In a wooden belfry are three bells ; and on the belfry a spire, shingled. This church is most agreeably situated, having a fine prospect all around it.

In the chancel is an inscription upon a brass plate, as follows :

To

To the memory of the worthy Gentleman and Merchant of London, Abel Guilliams, who in the forty-second yere of his age, left this mutable world upon the sixth of Aug. 1627.

The mortal part lies here; the immortal's gone  
To wayt upon heav'ns king upon his high throne :  
Death had the force this couple once to sever,  
But they shall meet, unite, and live for ever.

Above the inscription are the effigies of Mr. Guilliams, his wife, five sons, and four daughters.

In the body of the church, upon a brass plate, is as follows :

Here lyeth buried the body of William Nodes, gent. who died Feb. 21, 1594, in the 37th yere of the reign of our soveraign Ladie Queen Elizabeth. He had a wyfe Elizabeth Woolsey, by whom he had issue six sonnes and six daughters.

Over the inscription is the effigy in brass of Mr. Nodes; beneath it are the effigies of his children, to which effigies the name of each child is prefixed.

In the north ayfle is the following on a table of brass :

Of your Charite pray for the Soules of John Stonnard, and John and Katherin hys wyfes the whyche deceasyd the xix daye of Juyn, in the yere of God 1615. Of whos Soules and all Christen Soules Jhu have Mercy.

Their effigies are above the inscription in plates of brass :

In another plate of brass in this ayfle is an epitaph for

George Stonard Esquyre and Mary his wyfe. Which George decessed Nov. 24, 1558.

William



## LOUGHTON.

413

Here is likewise an epitaph for the following person :

William Stiles, only son of Robert and Barbary Stiles, who died March 26, 1724, aged 23.

## LOUGHTON RECTORY.

INCUMBENT.

PATRONESS.

Rev. William Sclater.

Miss Anne Whitaker.

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THE END OF THE THIRD VOLUME.



## To the PURCHASERS.

**T**HE Editor thinks it necessary to acquaint his Purchasers, that it was in Conformity to the pressing Solicitations he received from several of his Correspondents and particular Friends, that this Work has exceeded the prescribed Limits of Thirty-six Numbers. From the great Encouragement he has already received, and daily continues to receive, he flatters himself that in some Measure it has given Satisfaction; and assures his Readers, that in Gratitude for their Kindness, no Expence or Labour shall be spared to acquire a Knowledge of every Circumstance that may tend to illustrate this History, and render it the most entertaining of any yet published.

continued from the 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> Last  
Bank & Lane

of Ministry than D<sup>o</sup> of Wrafton  
and L<sup>o</sup> North, the Reason it was  
not Proceeded on, it was adjourn'd  
till after the Last Gen<sup>l</sup> Election

at w<sup>h</sup> I put up  
Liab Harvey

against  
S<sup>r</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Maynard

Jacob Houblon

& John Luther Esq<sup>r</sup>

Esq<sup>r</sup>

but notwithstanding I offered the  
country the afore S<sup>d</sup> Plan, with  
all the advantages, intended  
to be tack'd to it If the would but  
elect Mess<sup>rs</sup> Harvey, and Houblon  
Party deal Run so high, as to  
lose sight of Private Interest  
and future advantages to  
Posterity, thinking my self in  
this instance exceedingly I'll  
used by some part of the freeholders  
of the County of Essex.  
Told them I woud give my self  
no further Trouble & Expence,  
for People that would, nay,  
did work so much <sup>against</sup> ~~for~~ their  
Benefit. having on this occa-  
sion inbibed so much chagrin  
and Bitternes, that I woud  
drop all public Affairs & sit  
down Quiet & contented with  
the Great Service I had so often

done them, and the State &  
Nation at Large, which tak-  
ing all and all together,  
I have pride, Vanity & proper  
Ambition enough to say  
Private Person ever had the  
like opportunity Thrown in  
his way. for which the Dispo-  
ser of all things only be  
Thank'd & praised, how well  
I Executed the designs of <sup>Judges</sup> ~~and~~  
Heaven one can only <sup>by</sup> the  
Happy Success.

I shall conclude these  
memories with the March<sup>th</sup>  
address, deliver'd that Memo-  
rable day of Riot & Confu-  
sion when Insulted in the  
most gross manner by an  
Enraged Mob, purposely  
and Sett on, In many Dangers  
have I been in defence &  
Support of the Family, now  
Especially Seated on the Em-  
perial Throne, but never  
nearer losing my Life than  
that day at the Gate off  
Temple Barr; may his Ma-  
gesty live long, & happily Re-  
gn in the hearts & minds of a  
Loyal and Gratefull people  
I shall only add the Mor-  
si

address  
chants, as Penned by me, the  
first moover and Promoter  
of addresses on this occasion  
May it Please y<sup>e</sup> Majesty -

y<sup>e</sup> Majestys most dutifull  
and Royal Sub: & Serv:  
Peter Huilman

To the King: most Excellent Majesty

The Humble Address of the Mar-  
chants & Principal Traders  
of the City of London

Most Gracious Sovereign

We y<sup>e</sup> Majestys most Dutifull  
and Loyal Subjects, the March-  
& Principal Traders of the City  
of London, Humbly beg leave to  
approch y<sup>e</sup> Sacred Throne, with  
our Unfeined Assurances of  
Inviolable Duty, & affection for  
y<sup>e</sup> Royal Person and Govern:  
the Support where of in y<sup>e</sup> August  
House we will maintain, by Oppo-  
sing all disturbers of the Pub: Repre:



It is with the Utmost Con-  
demnation we see a Spirit of  
Faction go forth at this Time,  
Instigated by a very few Bung-  
lers, and their abettors, who  
wickedly Endeavour by Plot &  
Confusion to overturn, the very  
Essence of Government. (1/2)

Happy are we in knowing,  
that when the Legislature shall  
think it a fitt and Proper Time  
to Interpose, they have it in their  
Power, Effectually to Crush the  
very Spirit of Sedition.

We beg leave to Assure y<sup>e</sup> Majesty  
that by far the Greatest part of  
the Inhabitants of this Populous  
City, detest these Proceedings,  
and are fully Determined to  
oppose the same with all  
their Power, by Endeavouring  
to maintain & Support our  
Excellent Constitution under  
y<sup>e</sup> Majesty's most mild Governm<sup>t</sup>.

May the Creator of all beings  
grant y<sup>e</sup> Majesty a Long, and  
Prosperous Reign

and may there never be want-  
ing a Prince of y<sup>e</sup> Illustrious  
Line, to sway the Scepter over y<sup>e</sup>  
Majestys Extensive Empire.

and finally may all unite &  
become a loyal & Gratefull  
People, who's Liberties & proper-  
ties are securely Lodged with  
the Guardians of the Nation

N<sup>o</sup> This address was signed by up-  
wards of 500. of the Principle  
Inhabitants of London in  
a Long Train of Coaches, till  
we got to Temple Bar, when  
the mob had taken Possion  
& insultingly flung the hats  
& on us, flung Stones & dirt &  
on us, broke our carriages,  
the address miraculously  
Escaped their fury, being un-  
der the cushion of the front  
seat, thought to be Lost,  
but the coach being gone  
to the Coachmaker to be  
Repaired, was there Luckily  
found whole & Entire, so  
after Long seeking brought  
to St James near 5 or 6 o-  
Clock —

Speech & Letter to W.<sup>m</sup> Beckford  
Lord Mayor of London caution-  
ing him of Behaving with more  
Moderation the day Wilks was  
to come out of Goal had the  
desired Effect that day con-

